FBIS DAILY REPORT

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GORBACHEV'S PRAGUE SPEECH, PROPOSALS PRAISED

AU121914 Sofia BTA in English 1840 GMT 12 Apr 87

["Example of Political Responsibility and Realism" -- BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, April 12 (Nencho Khranov, BTA political observer) -- With its rich ideas, creative analysis and the opening of new possibilities for solution of the complicated international problems, the speech delivered by Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev at the rally in Prague is yet to be a subject of thorough analysis in the diplomatic cabinets and in the political circles all over the world. But even now one may say in the firm belief that this speech once again has outlined the Soviet Union, its party and state leadership, the secretary general of the CC of the CPSU, as a staunch supporter of new political thinking, with a high sense of responsibility and realism. And all this answers to the great aim -- permanent peace and mutually advantageous cooperation, elimination of weapons till the end of the century.

In a responsible political moment, when the conclusion of a separate agreement for elimination of medium range missiles from Europe depends namely on the political will of the states, the Soviet Union once again showed that what is important for it is the solution of this task, which is of significance to all peoples. The proposal, set forth by Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, for separate negotiations on the reduction and later the liquidation of the missiles with a range from 500 to 1000 kilometers, without their binding to the results of the negotiations on medium range missiles, has a practical importance for the faster solution of the question. It is well known that the allegations for some superiority of the Soviet Union in the sphere of short range missiles are the main argument of the West for the blocking of the Geneva negotiations. It must be on the negotiation table, on the basis of equal security, that the question about the liquidation of that weapon must be decided.

The approach of the Soviet Union is remarkable. As early as Mikhail Gorbachev's declaration from February 28, and now in Prague, it has been clearly said that the aim of the negotiations must be chiefly the elimination of medium range missiles, as well as the liquidation of short range missiles in the future negotiations. No loopholes should be left in a future agreement concerning their remaining and improvement. Just the opposite, at least for the present moment, aims the West. It makes plans for new "reconstruction" of Pershing-2 into Pershing-1, for "additional armament" in the sphere of short range missiles. And all these contradicts to the very idea of relieving Europe from these dangerous nuclear weapons.

Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev stood for establishing of strict control on the fulfillment of the future agrements at all stages of nuclear disarmament.

A clear answer was also given to the speculations with the problem about the armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe. The Warsaw Treaty member-states have a clear-cut programme, adopted in Budapest last year, for radical reductions on the side of the two military-political alliances. The questions of the reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons can be solved radically together with tactical missiles, storm aviation, nuclear artillery and the other tactical nuclear weapons.

Initiative of the great constructive potential is the proposal of the Soviet Union for a meeting in Vienna of the foreign ministers of the states which have signed the Helsinki Act. This meeting should adopt a decision for comprehensive negotiations on the radical reduction of tactical nuclear weapons, of armed forces and conventional weapons. What remains of the lies of the NATO propaganda that the Soviet Union strives for military superiority in the field of conventional weapons?

Tomorrow's visit of the U.S. Secretary of State Mr. George Shultz to Moscow will be the first indicator how serious and responsible are the intentions of the U.S. for nuclear disarmament, for a decrease in the military burden of Europe. But the West European countries are also a factor of enormous political importance. From mere talk in favour of disarmament it is time, high time, to pass to real contribution to the solution of all problems related to the establishment of mutual security in our European house. The postion of Western Europe has its weight and they know it very well in London, Bonn and Paris.

A real triumph of the new political thinking would be the building of a new atmosphere of goodneighbourly relations and trust, of peaceful co-existence and cooperation. And the road to such Europe, worthy of the 21st century, passes through disarmament -- nuclear and conventional.

ZHIVKOV RETURNS FROM TRIP TO POLAND 10 APRIL

AU101533 [Editorial Report] Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 1500 GMT on 10 April begins a 2-minute live relay from Sofia airport with reporter Boyan Bonev, on the arrival of Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, from Poland, "where he paid a 2-day friendly working visit at the invitation of Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski."

Bonev states: "Here at Sofia airport Comrade Todor Zhivkov was greeted by Comrades Georgi Atanasov, Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Yordan Yotov, Petur Mladenov, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Georgi Yordanov, Grigor Stoichkov, Dimitur Stoyanov, Vasil Tsanov, Dimitur Stanishev, and Emil Khristov, as well as by other officials."

Bonev states that Zhivkov's visit to Poland confirms the "useful practice" of high-level visits, and it "maps out new trends and directions in consolidating mutually advantageous cooperation and contributes to the intensification of the integration process." Bonev adds that an example for this is the "inter-governmental agreement on direct production and scientific-technical cooperation between enterprises and organizations of Bulgaria and Poland, which was signed today in Warsaw, in the presence of both Comrades Todor Zhivkov and Wojciech Jaruzelski."

CPSU GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV CONCLUDES VISIT

Gorbachev Remarks, Soviet Media

For reportage on and texts of remarks by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and Soviet media coverage during his visit to the CSSR, see the Eastern Europe section of the 10 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Bilak, Jakes, Medvedev Meeting

LD100842 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1800 GMT 9 Apr 87

[Text] Vasil Bilak and Milos Jakes, members of the Presidium and secretaries of the CPCZ Central Committee, met in Prague today with Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Questions of ideological and economic cooperation were evaluated.

10 April TV Coverage

AU111515 [Editorial Report] Prague Television Service in Czech and Slovak on 10 April carries the following programs devoted entirely or largely to the second day of CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Czechoslovakia: a 10-minute newscast at 0950 GMT (covering Mikhail Gorbachev's and Raisa Gorbachev's morning activities); a 5-minute video summary of the same morning activities at 1345 GMT, a 2-hour live relay from the Prague Palace of Culture of a Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Rally at 1350 GMT; a 30-minute report in the main newscast at 1730 GMT; and a 25-minute summary of the day's events at 2140 GMT. The first two programs are video summaries of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the CKD plant on the morning of 10 April and of his wife's activities the same morning. Expanded versions of both these summaries are included in the main newscast at 1730 GMT.

The live relay from the Palace of Culture of a Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Rally at 1350 GMT opens with interviews with participants in the meeting, which are conducted in the foyer. The camera then pans to the main auditorium, the front of which is decorated with a large red banner bearing the inscription "the CPSU's experience -- an invaluable source of instructions for the CPCZ in building a developed socialist society." At 1403 GMT, Gustav Husak and Mikhail Gorbachev are seen entering the hall, to a standing ovation. They take their seats in the center of the front row of the ovation. They take their seats in the center of the front row of the raised platform, all other seats of which are already occupied.

The following officials can be identified sitting in the first row of the raised platform, from left to right, Jan Fojtik, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; Antonin Kapek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and leading secretary of the Prague CPCZ City Committee; Peter Colotka; member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and Slovak premier; Karel Hoffmann, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; Milos Jakes, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR president; Lubomir Strougal, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and CSSR premier; Viktor Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR; Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly; Jozef Lenart, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee; Ladislav Adamec, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and Czech premier; Josef Kempny, member of the CPCZ Central

Committee Presidium and chairman of the Czech National Council; and Josef Haman, candidate member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

Other members of the CPCZ leadership (including candidate Presidium members Frantisek Pitra, Miloslav Hruskovic, Vladimir Herman, and Ignac Janak; Secretaries Mikulas Beno, Josef Havlin, and Jindrich Polednik; and Secretariat members Zdenek Horeni, Marie Kabrhelova, and Miroslav Zavadil) can be recognized among the officials sitting in the second row of the raised platform. Other prominent participants in the meeting who can be identified include Raisa Gorbacheva and USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gerasimov, who both sit in the auditorium, and Bohuslav Chnoupek and Army General Milan Vaclavik, Czechoslovak ministers of foreign affairs and national defense, who both are sitting in the fifth row of the raised platform.

Following the Soviet and Czechoslovak national anthems, Gustav Husak takes the floor and delivers an 18-minute opening speech. He is followed by Mikhail Gorbachev, who delivers the main, 60-minute speech of the rally. At one time during his speech, Gorbachev pulls out a handkerchief, wipes his nose, and explains to the laughter and applause of the audience that they can now see that he really had caught a cold and that the visit was not postponed for any other reason. After Gorbachev's speech, Gorbachev and Husak are both presented with white flowers and are shown embracing and kissing each other. The audience responds with a standing ovation and chants of "friendship."

Husak, speaking from his seat rather than from the rostrum, then delivers the closing, 6-minute speech of the rally. During Husak's and Gorbachev's speeches, the camera is mostly trained on the speakers, from time to time intercutting shots of the audience or panning the other officials seated on the raised platform.

The live relay ends at about 1542 GMT with the signing of the "Internationale" and with shots of Husak and Gorbachev shaking hands, picking up their briefcases and flowers, and leaving the auditorium to the applause of the audience.

The 1730 GMT newscast begins with an 18-minute video report on Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the "Compressors" plant of the CKD enterprise in Prague's ninth ward on the morning of 10 April. The item opens with shots of the motorcade conveying Gorbachev, Husak, and CPSU Secretary Vadim Medvedev arriving at the plant where they are greeted by Premier Strougal, Prague party leader Kapek, candidate Presidium member Haman, and members of the CKD management. While the announcer talks of the plant, the visitors proceed to the enterprise halls and are shown passing through various sections of the enterprise and inspecting the products made there. Gorbachev is seen stopping several times and engaging the workers in conversations. He is heard thanking them for their work, telling them about the appreciation for their products in the Soviet Union, urging them to advance faster, and wishing them further success. He also inquires about the workers' satisfaction with the machinery they use, about their pay, housing conditions, and other social issues. In their replies, the workers stress that they "root" for Gorbachev and restructuring. In concluding his visit to the CKD plant, Gorbachev is heard making a speech referring, among other things, to the events of 1968.

Next follows a 1-minute video report on Gorbachev's visit to the CPCZ Central Committee headquarters on Prague's Ludvik Svoboda Quay. A brief shot of Gorbachev's meeting with members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and Secretariat reveals that members of the CPCZ leadership are seated at the table (facing Gorbachev and Medvedev) in the following order: Jan Fojtik, Josef Kempny, Ladislav Adamec, Jozef Lenart, Milos Jakes, Lubomir Strougal, Gustav Husak, Vasil Bilak, Alois Indra, Karel Hoffmann, Peter Colotka, Antonin Kapek, Miloslav Hruskovic, and Frantisek Pitra. No other officials attending the meeting can be identified.

The program continues with 2 minutes of film clips showing Raisa Gorbacheva's activities on 10 April. She is shown meeting the leadership of the Czechoslovak Union of Women and visiting Prague Castle, accompanied by Eva Fojtikova. Here she is seen inspecting St George's Basilica, Vladislav Hall, St Vitus Cathedral, and the crown jewels.

The program ends with shots of Gorbachev, his wife Raisa, and Gustav Husak seated in the Presidential Box of the Prague National Theater, before the start of a special performance of "The Bartered Bride."

The 2140 GMT summary of the day's events contains video summaries of materials shown at 1345 GMT and 1730 GMT. In addition to these earlier materials, it contains a slightly longer, 2-minute version of Gorbachev's talks at the CPCZ Central Committee and a 5-minute video report on the gala performance of "The Bartered Bride" in the National Theater. In the report on his talks in the CPCZ Central Committee Headquarters, Gorbachev is seen addressing the staff of the Central Committee. In this short speech, Gorbachev stresses the responsible nature of the work of the party apparatus and the fact that the party leadership "always relies" on it. He also recalls his own career as a party staffer and wishes the CPCZ staff success in its work.

The video report on the special performance of Smetana's opera "The Bartered Bride" shows Gorbachev, who is accompanied by his wife and by Gustav Husak, arriving at the National Theater where he is greeted by Czech Minister of Culture Milan Klusak and Jiri Pauer, the theater's director. Gorbachev and his wife, in the presence of Gustav Husak, Vasil Bilak, Lubomir Strougal, and Milos Jakes, are also shown chatting with the conductor and the singers during an intermission.

Meeting With Husak, Party

LD101051 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1030 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] A meeting of Comrade Gorbachev and Comrade Husak, members and candidate members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat, and the chairman of the Central Control and Auditing Commission of the party has started at the CPCZ Central Committee. Also present at the meeting are Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other Soviet comrades.

Worker's Remarks on Plant Tour

LD101233 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1030 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Excerpts] Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, started the 2d day of his official, friendly visit to Czechoslovakia with a visit to the CKD compressor plant in Prague. [passage omitted] Correspondent Stanislav Benda reports:

[Benda] During his tour of the plant, Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, has visited workshops where he talked to workers, and he has only just visited the assembly hall of the top quality compressors. [passage omitted] Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev is now signing the book of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Brigade of Socialist Labor. I now ask Comrade Mlady, the brigade's leader, about his first impressions.

[Mlady] I have already said this: you see, I could not sleep last night, because I had been looking forward to the visit so much. We shall treasure this book with the inscription forever, because this is the most precious thing in the book of the Brigade of Socialist Labor.

[Benda] What did you talk about with Comrade Gorbachev?

[Mlady] About work more or less — what we do, how we like it — and about our products. And of course we mentioned the fact that most of our products are for the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

[Brenda] How would you describe in one sentence the feeling from the visit?

[Mlady] Well, I have never experienced any better feeling than I did today.

[Benda] How did you prepare for this very precious visit?

[Mlday] Of course this is a real honor, the highest honor for our team so far, because such a man, a man who is respected by the whole world — he is as we say, the Number One in the world — does not come to see a team every day and not everyone is so lucky. All of us, the whole team, had looked forward to the visit so much, because it is no small matter to meet such a man. As we have been honored so much, we shall now repay by even better work, above all for orders for the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

Prague Friendship Rally

LD102130 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1600 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] The culmination of the 2d day of the official friendly visit of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Czechoslovakia, was a gala meeting of working people and youth from Prague and the Central Bohemian region in the Palace of Culture. This was organized by the CPCZ Central Committee, the party city committee in Prague, the central Bohemian regional party committee, and the Central Committees of the National Fronts of the CSSR and the Czech Socialist Republic.

About 3,000 working people from enterprises in Prague and the Central Bohemian region, young people and citizens, and delegations from other regions from all over Czechoslovakia filled the congress hall. There was a slogan in front of the hall, "Experiences of the USSR: invaluable sources of enlightenment for the CPCZ in the building of advanced socialist society," and also Czechoslovak and Soviet state flags. A banner saying, "With the USSR for peace and for the futher advancement of our socialist homeland," in Czech and Russian, was placed on the balcony.

At 1600, Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic; Lubomir Strougal, federal premier; and other members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium; Ladislav Adamec, Vasil Bilak, Peter Colotka, Karel Hoffmann, Alois Indra, Milos Jakes, Antonin Kapek, Josef Kempny, and Jozef Lenart took their places in the honorary presidium.

Also present were candidate members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium Jan Fojtik, Josef Haman, Vladimir Herman, Miloslav Hruskovic, Ignac Janak, and Frantisek Pitra; Secretaries of the CPCZ Central Committee Mikulas Beno, Josef Havlin, and Jindrich Polednik; members of the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat Zdenek Horeni, Marie Kabrhelova, and Miroslav Zavadil; and Jaroslav Hajn, chairman of the Central Control and Auditing Commission of the CPCZ Central Committee.

Also taking their seats in the Presidium were high-level members of the CPSU delegation along with Viktor Lomakin, USSR ambassador in Czechoslovakia. In addition, taking part in the meeting were heads of CPCZ Central Committee departments; deputy chairmen and ministers of the federal government; leading officials of the Federal Assembly, organs, and organizations of the National Front and the Czech National Council; and other personalities of our political and public life.

Among those present were representatives of the commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact States at the Ministry of National Defense and the command of the Soviet Central Group of Forces in Czechoslovakia. Also present were members of the Prague diplomatic corps.

Following the state anthems of the USSR and Czechoslovakia, the meeting was opened by Comrade Gustav Husak.

Husak Address at Rally

LD101450 Prague Television Service in Czech 1407 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Speech by Gustav Husak, CPCZ general secretary and president of the republic, at CSSR-USSR friendship meeting in Prague Palace of Culture -- live]

[Text] Esteemed comrades, I open a festive rally of Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship, attended by the representatives of the working people of the capital city of Prague, the Central Bohemian Region, and delegations from all regions of our state.

On behalf of the CPCZ Central Committee and all Czechoslovak people, I most cordially welcome in our midst our very special guest, Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary. [applause lasting 30 seconds] I also welcome other Soviet comrades present at our rally.

Dear Mikhail Sergeyevich, we interpret your visit as an important event in the life of our party and our nations. We are convinced that the results of this visit will contribute to the further dynamic development of our multifaceted cooperation. From the very first moments of your stay in our country, from the moments of your first meetings with our working people, you have been able to see the great esteem in which our people hold you, the sincere agreement with which they accept innovative ideas and the appreciation with which our people follow the substantial reforms [reforma] you are pushing through. Our people are right to see in these reforms a direction which maps out the path forward for us also.

You have been able to see how deeply rooted the traditions of Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship are in the minds and hearts of our nations. Later this year we will jointly recall the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the greatest event of our century, which opened a new era of human history. The establishment of the Czechoslovak state and the foundation of our Communist Party are also connected with this event.

We shall never forget that it was the victorious Soviet Army that brought freedom to our people, paying for it with enormous sacrifices. [applause]

We highly appreciate the friendship of the Soviet people, the alliance with the USSR which has been our support during the entire era of the building of socialism. We see in it a firm guarantee of living in peace and further flourishing of our socialist homeland.

Your visit to Socialist Czechoslovakia is taking place in exceptional times, when the socialist world is entering a new revolutionary stage It is seeking new answers to the pressing issues of our time, it reevaluates and changes what has become obsolete, and it tries out new ways of speedier economic, scientific-technical, and social growth. It is mainly due to the CPSU, which carried out a deep analysis of the current stage, and which, on the basis of the 27th congress program and the January CPSU Central Committee plenum, is consistently implementing the strategy of acceleration, of revolutionary restructuring and democratization of Soviet society. Its proceeding is an example of the creative development of Leninism in tackling key theoretical and practical issues of socialist construction of our time. It is of enormous importance not only for the USSR but also for us, for the entire socialist community, for peace and progress in the world.

I would like to emphasize again at today's assembly that the CPCZ and our people warmly support the innovative course of the CPSU. [applause] We consider it to be an immensely valuable source of new stimuli and ideas that help in solving our tasks.

From the heart we wish you, esteemed Comrade Gorbachev, Soviet Communists, all soviet people, full success in realizing the grand program of the development of the Soviet Union. [applause]

The stronger the Soviet Union, the firmer the whole socialist community, and the more certain the cause of peace in the world. [applause]

Comrades, the rich ideas of the 27th CPSU Congress were our point of departure in working out the program of our 17th congress aimed at accelerating the economic, social, and society's development of our homeland. The year that has passed since the congress has been a period of intensive work for our party, all the people who adopted the congress program as their own. At its December and March sessions our party's Central Committee evaluated in a demanding manner what we have achieved in the economic, social, and other areas. It emphasized the vital need to increase the tempo in realizing the congress program; to push through everywhere new approaches, greater exactingness, criticism, and openness; and to overcome shortcomings energetically.

We place particular emphasis on the working out and the gradual realization of the principles of the restructuring of the economic mechanism, which were approved and published in January. On the wide basis of the National Front we unite all honest people devoted to the socialist homeland in the work of construction. The conclusions from the January session of the CPSU Central Committee represented for us a creative contribution of fundamental importance, which developed and made concrete the line of the 27th CPSU Congress. In Czechoslovakia, too, they met with a great and warm reaction.

The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium concerned itself in detail with its implementation in the activity of our party, in the life of our society.

It adopted a wide range of measures, the aim of which is to implement further economic reform, deepen democratization of the political, economic and other spheres, and expand the people's participation in management and administration. The initiatives of people today are directed toward increasing the standard of general knowledge and of public control, reinforcing responsibility and discipline, having better management and working better and fulfilling the tasks of the Eighth 5-Year Plan.

At its March session the CPCZ Central Committee unanimously approved the Presidium conclusions, which we shall throughly implement in practice with the unified effort of the whole party.

We aim at making socialism in Czechoslovakia even stronger and more attractive, at giving the advancement of our society new dynamism and zest, so people can have better conditions for life and work. [applause]

Comrades, I can tell you with great satisfaction that the talks I had with Comrade Gorbachev, as well as the meetings with the entire party's leadership, were marked by cordiality and trust, mutual understanding and comradely openness.

We fully agree in the analysis of the current stage of development, in our views on the strategy of further proceeding with socialist construction and of strengthening the unity of the socialist community and the fight for peace and progress in the world.

There is a firm unity of views and actions between the CPCZ and the CPSU. We are following the same aims; we are following a joint path. [applause]

We dealt extensively with Czechoslovak-Soviet relations and praised the standard achieved in them. However, the main attention was focused on the prospects of their development on the increase of intensity and efficiency of mutual contacts in the political, economic, ideological, and other spheres. We agreed that for the development of our economic, scientific, and technical cooperation it is necessary to utilize more effectively the possibilities that proceed form our potential, from the dynamism of our development, and from the restructuring of the management system. We see the main path to this in implementing direct contacts between enterprises and setting up joint enterprises and organizations, in progressive forms of production specialization and cooperation, particularly in machine building, and in deeper coordination of science and research and other sectors.

The basic intentions of our economic strategy are reflected in the Program of Long-Term Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between the CSSR and the USSR and in the Complex Program of Scientific and Technical Progress of CEMA States. We see as basically important for developing economic relations between our countries the working out of a conception of cooperation for the next 15 to 20 years. We have therefore instructed all our management bodies to approach these tasks with the highest possible initiative and responsibility, with the awareness that they are of key importance for the future development for the improvement of the structure and modernization of the Czechslovak economy.

Comrades, in our discussion on international issues we proceeded from the premise that the realities of the complex and contradictory world in the present-day nuclear age require a new way of thinking, new approaches to solving the present international issues. To this correspond the peace proposals, initiatives, and the steps of the Soviet Union for the relaxation of tension, for averting the nuclear threat, for halting the arms race and for creating a system of international security and peaceful cooperation between states with different social systems.

The far-reaching Soviet proposals at the summit negotiations between the USSR and the United States in Rejkyavik have become an expression of this policy. Of great importance for European nations, and for our nations in particular -- since we live in the very middle of this continent -- is the Soviet proposal for an agreement on the liquidation of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe. The Soviet foreign policy of peace enjoys the complete support of all our public.

Dear Comrade Gorbachev, our people have deep esteem for your great contribution to efforts leading to improving the international climate, efforts closely connected with your struggle for developing the creative potential of Soviet society. [applause]

Czechoslovakia consistently participates, and will continue to do so, in pushing through the peace proposals put forward by the Warsaw Pact. It actively applies the coordinated approach in foreign political activity. The proposal for setting up a chemical and nuclear weapons-free central Europe forms a part of this approach. The Governments of Czechoslovakia and the GDR have recently made an official appeal to the FRG Government on this issue.

Comrades, despite all the difficulties, our people have achieved historic results in socialist construction. In our country, too, the socialist system has proved itself in solving the fundamental questions of the life of our people and has fully passed historical tests. Likewise, the vital importance of our friendship and alliance with the USSR has been demonstrated. For us, this is a revolutionary heritage and a security on which we build both the present and future and the long-term prospects of the development of our country. [applause] We are convinced that with this aim in mind, Communists, non-party members, members of other political parties and organizations of the National Front, are determined to work selflessly.

The results of our comprehensive talks with Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, give prerequisites for raising Czechoslovak-Soviet relations in all areas on a qualitatively higher level. We will make all efforts to make use of all new possibilities that open up before us, in our cooperation, in the development of socialism, for the benefit of our people and in the interest of the joint cause of peace and progress.

Long live the unbreakable friendship and alliance between the Peoples of Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. [applause]

May cooperation between the CPCZ and CPSU continue to develop. [applause]

Long live peace and socialism [applause]

Long live our most faithful and closest friend, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. [applause and chanting]

Esteemed comrades, it is now my pleasant duty to ask our special guest, Comrade Gorbachev, to speak. [applause]

Husak Concluding Speech

LD101851 Prague Television Service in Czech 1530 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Concluding Speech by Gustav Husak, CPCZ general secretary, in Prague's Palace of Culture -- live]

[Text] Esteemed comrades, I thank Comrade Gorbachev with all my heart for his principled, important speech, and for his kind words by Czechoslovakia and its people, and about our mutual relations.

In the past 2 days we have walked around Prague among a large number of people -- young, old, of all generations -- who showed moving expressions of esteem and love toward Comrade Gorbachev, toward the Communist Party, and toward the Soviet Union. Everyone was asking if he had gone by. What lies behind the sudden strength of such human expression? The speech we have just heard has shown in at least two or three ways where it lies.

Comrade Gorbachev spoke; I do not wish to repeat his words about the great effort of Soviet Communists and people to build a new stage of socialist society, and to raise every aspect -- scientific, economic, social, cultural -- to a higher level. These are problems with which we, in Czechoslovakia, also concern ourselves. It is worthwhile to study this speech carefully, to think about it. These are problems of the Soviet people, our problems, the problems of the socialist world and of mutual relations, which have been here for years. And people are thinking about it. What are "perestroyka" [preceding word in Russian] and democracy? What is their past experience?

Today when we went around CKD [Prague Compressor Plant], or yesterday in the pedestrian zone, hundreds of people asked about this and that, and Comrade Gorbachev asked directly about their lives, views, and so on. Immediate contracts, that is what people think about, where their hopes lie, how they see a generally better life. Here Comrade Gorbachev represents these thoughts with which the CPSU comes to us. This, I think, is the first reason why the face that is familiar to most from the television screen or from photographs, is suddenly in Prague. And just like everywhere else before was received so nicely, with esteem, and in a serious way. [applause]

The second reason that was heard in the speech is the untiring and consistent striving for a peaceful solution to the problems in the word, the peaceful coexistence of nations and the peaceful life of the people.

Today, Comrade Gorbachev put forward a new proposal, or rather a new set of proposals, with which he has appealed to all countries, in response to their [the West's] counterproposals to previous proposals on nuclear and (?chemical) weapons which the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries had put forward and against which the other side has raised various objections and proposed amendments in regard to control -- where it can take place and how it should be carried out -- involving the so-called short-range missiles, an issue which they have raised of late, and the like. Indeed, I would say that he has answered these objections and has appealed to all nations to sit down at the negotiating table and discuss these questions. There is no question that cannot be discussed between nations in order to preserve peace and eliminate weapons of annihilation.

Where better to meet than in Prague, in Czechoslovakia, which has experienced so many wars — one could almost say that no European war has evaded our territory or our capital city, that we are on the border line dividing NATO and Warsaw Pact countries — and where on both sides there are huge stocks of weapons and where we are giving our wholehearted support to the resolution of European and world problems?

I would like to say that we fully and wholeheartedly support these new proposals put forward today in Comrade Gorbachev's proposal. For our part, we shall do our utmost to promote it. We support the proposal that these issues should be discussed so that a step forward could be made again. [applause]

The building up of an advanced socialist society, the issues of peace — these are the most significant and characteristic features of Comrade Gorbachev's speeches and the CPSU policy statements. Both were included in the speech we have just heard.

I ask you, Mikhail Sergeyevich, to convey to the Soviet Communists and to the Soviet people our militant greetings from this meeting, from all Czechoslovak people, and the assurance that in the Czechoslovak Communists and in our working people they have loyal friends, cofighters, and comrades. [applause]

Once again, I give thank to Comrade Gorbachev for his speech and his participation and to all of you for your patient participation in this rally. I hereby end this gala rally. Long live Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship! Long live socialism and peace! Long live the Soviet Union! [prolonged applause and chants]

News Conference on Visit

LD102154 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Report by Lubos Taraba on news conference, held at Hotel Intercontinental press center, on 10 April speech by Mikhail Gorbachev]

[Text] [Taraba] Taking part in the news conference in a conference hall full to overflowing, on the Soviet side were Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, and Academicians Oleg Bogomolov and Yevgeniy Primakov. The Czechoslovak side was represented by Deputy Foreign Minister Roman Narozny, Academician Kubicek, and other political figures.

The journalists carefully listened to the statement of Roman Narozny on today's visit by Mikhail Gorbachev in Prague. Academician Yevgeniy Primakov then spoke. He described the new Soviet proposals for talks about disarmament as they were presented today by Comrade Gorbachev in his speech in the palace of culture. Yevgeniy Primakov stressed that a chance still exists of achieving disarmament and a reduction in tension. Academician Oleg Bogomolov supplemented these words by pointing out the joint approach of Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union on the international forum. It is not however only a matter of agreement on international political questions between our countries. The joint approach also applies on all questions of bilateral relations, Oleg Bogomolov pointed out.

In another part of the press conference its participants answered numerous questions from Czechoslovak and foreign journalists. There was talk about the present visit by Mikhail Gorbachev to our country, about the primary questions of the day, about possibilities of dialogue between East and West, about Soviet peace proposals, and about bilateral relations between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Information directorate, at journalists' request talked about the central ideas of today's speech by Mikhail Gorbachev. He pointed out that the Soviet Union wishes to achieve the elimination of nuclear weapons in Europe in order to reduce the threat of confrontation on our continent which is the point of departure for strengthening peace and security in other parts of the world.

Raisa Gorbacheva's Activities

LD101716 Prague CTK in English 1607 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Prague April 10 (CTK) -- Wife of the Soviet Communist Party general secretary Raisa Gorbacheva attended here Friday a friendly meeting with Czechoslovak Union of Women Representatives and other outstanding political personalities.

She was welcomed cordially by chairman of the Czechoslovak Union of Women and member of the Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat Marie Kabrhelova who stressed the Czechoslovak women's interest in the process of the restructuring of Soviet society.

Czechoslovak and Soviet women are united in the effort to solve problems in the spheres of work, remuneration, upgrading of qualifications, participation in management, the sphere of social affairs and others. In this connection, the participants appreciated the latest measures in social policy for the benefit of women, families and pensioners, which are adopted last week as part of the 17th Communist Party Congress program.

Women's movement representatives emphasized the active role of women in the struggle for peace and disarmament, and their participation in preparations for the world women's congress and the 9th Congress of the Women's International Democratic Federation in Moscow in June.

Raisa Gorbacheva visited today Prague Castle where she saw St George's Basilica, the Vladislav Hall, St Vitus' Cathedral and the crown jewels.

She highly appreciated Czechoslovakia's care for the cultural heritage of the past.

Gorbachev, Husak Attend Opera

LD102142 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1930 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Excerpt] At the close of the 2d day of the official, friendly visit, Comrades Mikhail Gorbachev and Gustav Husak saw a gala performance of Smetana's opera "The Bartered Bride" in the National Theater in Prague. The special guests were welcomed in front of the historic building by Milan Klusak, Czech minister of culture, and National Artist Jiri Pauer, director of the National Theater.

Accompanied by the sounds of trumpets from Smetana's opera "Libuse," Mikhail Gorbachev, with his wife, and Gustav Husak took their places in the presidential box. Seated in places of honor were Comrades Lubomir Strougal, Ladislav Adamec, Vasil Bilak, Peter Colotka, Karel Hoffmann, Alois Indra, Milos Jakes, Antonin Kapek, Josef Kempny, Jozef Lenart, Jan Fojtik, Josef Haman, Vladimir Herman, Miloslav Hruskovic, Ignac Janak, Frantisek Pitra, Mikulas Beno, Josef Havlin, Jindrich Polednik, Zdenek Horeni, Marie Kebrhelova, Miroslav Zavadil, Jaroslav Hajn, and members of the Soviet entourage.

Also present at the gala performance were figures from political, public, and cultural life. Present was Viktor Lomakin, Soviet ambassador to Czechoslovakia, and other members of the Prague diplomatic corps. [passage omitted]

Bratislava Press Center Role

LD102035 Prague CTK in English 1819 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Bratislava April 10 (CTK) — A press centre was opened here Friday on the occasion of Soviet Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev's official friendly visit to Czechoslovakia.

The press centre will serve foreign journalists accredited to the Prague centre. Foreign newspapers, magazines and postcards as well as booklets about Czechoslovakia in six language mutations and political documents including Mikhail Gorbachev's and Gustav Husak's speeches will be available there.

The CTK News Aency provides photos from the Soviet leader's visit to Czechoslovakia

Departure for Bratislava

LD110919 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0800 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is on an official friendly visit to the CSSR, is about to leave for Bratislava. Stanislav Benda reports on the farewell ceremony at Ruzyne airport:

The official friendly visit of the highest Soviet representative, Mikhail Gorbachev, is to continue today in the Slovak Socialist Republic. At this moment Comrades Mikhail Gorbachev and Gustav Husak are coming onto the tarmac, welcomed by thousands of Prague citizens. The state flags of the two countries flutter on the poles in front of the airport building: Red decorations on the roof flutter in the wind. A special Soviet Aeroflot aircraft waits on the tarmac.

The Soviet guest is saying goodbye to the deputy chairmen and ministers of the federal government, to representatives of the Federal Assembly, the National Front, and the Czech National Council. Generals of the Czechoslovak People's Army and other figures of political and public life also came to Ruzyne Airport to say goodbye to Mikhail Gorbachev. Also present are representatives of the commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states and the Command of the Soviet Central Group of Forces in the CSSR.

Comrade Gorbachev is now saying goodbye to the people of Prague. They came to the airport building terraces to express their pleasure to our distinguished guest, and to thank him for his visit. They came to express the feelings experienced by the people throughout our homeland.

Handshakes. Smiles. Czechoslovak and Soviet flags above the heads of Prague citizens. Everyone is eager to at least shake hands with Comrade Gorbachev when saying goodbye, but CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, his wife Raisa Gorbacheva, and Gustav Huska, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and the president of the republic, who will accompany them to Bratislava, are approaching the steps of the special aircraft. Bidding farewell to our guest are members and candidate members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, secretaries and members of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee. Comrade Gorbachev shakes hands with Lubomir Strougal, Ladislav Adamec, Karel Hoffmann, Alois Indra, Antonin Kapek, and other officials. Soviet and Czechoslovak Pioneers now hand bouquets of red carnations to the highest Soviet representative.

The two statesmen now ascend the steps of the special aircraft and wave to all who came to say goodbye.

Goodbye Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, your visit will truly be unforgettable for all people of Prague, as well as for the inhabitants of the Slovak Socialist Republic capital who await you impatiently in the festively decorated Bratislava.

Arrival in Bratislava

LD111003 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0910 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Unidentified correspondent's report from Bratislava]

[Excerpt] Esteemed friends. I report from Bratislava's Ivanka Airport at the very moment a special aircraft from Prague arrives. Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev appears at the door, and the most distinguished guests are welcomed at the steps of the aircraft by Jozef Lenart, first secretary of the CPSL Central Committee, and his wife; Peter Colotka, Slovak Socialist Republic premier; Viliam Salgovich, member of the CPSL Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Slovak national council. [applause in background]

I can see a forest of Czechoslovak and Soviet flags waved above the heads of thousands of Bratislava citizens in welcome for the most distinguished guests, Comrade Gorbachev and Comrade Gustav Husak, our highest representative. Our and Soviet Pioneers and members of the Socialist Youth Union greet the guests with bouquets of flowers. The first moments, the first handshakes, the first words on the soil of the Slovak Socialist Republic. This is how the first moments of Comrade Gorbachev's stay in Bratislava are commencing.

He is just being greeted by members of the CPSL Central Committee, members of its Secretariat. On the airport tarmac wait directors of departments of the Party's Central Committee, deputy chairmen of the Slovak National Council, deputy premiers and members of the government of the Slovak Socialist Republic, representatives of the National Front, generals of the Czechoslovak People's Army, representatives of Soviet forces. The first photographs are taken. This is the scene at the welcome for Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev and his entourage on the soil of the Slovak Socialist Republic. [passage omitted]

AFP: Visit 'Cut Short'

AU111056 Paris AFP in English 1054 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, April 11 (AFP) -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Czechoslovakia has been cut short and he will leave here for Moscow at 1400 GMT Saturday, it was officially announced in the Slovak capital.

No explanation was given for the change. Mr. Gorbachev should have ended his visit on Sunday morning.

The Soviet leader's arrival in Prague was put back by three days because he was said to have a slight cold earlier this week.

Final Activities

LD111527 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1300 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] The final meeting between Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the republic, and Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, took place in Bratislava today. Satisfaction was expressed over the outcome of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Czechoslovakia. It was noted that it has become a significant landmark in the development of comprehensive cooperation and in the strengthening of friendship between the peoples of the two fraternal countries.

Gustav Husak once again expressed the full support of the Czechoslovak Communists and all the working people for the innovative domestic and foreign policies of the CPSU. Czechoslovakia fully supports the latest Soviet initiatives on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and on other disarmament issues, which were delivered at the Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship meeting in Prague.

Mikhail Gorbachev expressed his sincere thanks for the exceptionally warm and cordial reception he received in Czechoslovakia. He wished the Communists and the peoples of Czechoslovakia great success in carrying out the tasks set out by the 17th CPCZ Congress and in further development of their socialist country.

Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev paid homage in Bratislava today to the memory of the armed revolt of our people against fascism by laying a wreath at the monument to the Slovak national uprising. By laying a wreath at the Monument of Liberators at Slavin, he paid homage to the bravery of the Soviet soldiers who fell during the liberation of our homeland.

The Presidium of the CPSL Central Committee gave a gala luncheon in honor of Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife. Participating in it were Comrade Gustav Husak and other figures accompanying the Soviet guests. Representatives from the party and state bodies of the Slovak SR were present. Comrades Jozef Lenart and Mikhail Gorbachev gave speeches at the gala luncheon.

In addition, we point out that around 1530 Czechoslovak radio will broadcast at the Hvezda station a live report from the farewell ceremony with Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev prior to his departure by air to the Soviet Union.

Lenart Luncheon Speech

LD112324 Prague Television service in Slovak 2120 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] In honor of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and his wife, the CPSL Central Committee Presidium gave a gala luncheon. Present was Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the republic, and other party and state representatives. Among the guests was Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Viktor Lomakin, Soviet ambassador to Czechoslovakia.

Comrades Jozef Lenart and Mikhail Gorbachev made speeches at the gala luncheon which took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. We will now inform you of the full texts. Comrade Jozef Lenart spoke first, he said:

Dear Comrade Gorbachev, dear Comrade Husak, dear Comrade Gorbacheva, dear Soviet guests, comrades:

On Behalf of the Slovak party and state organs, the organs of the National Front, I would like once again to express my great pleasure that during your visit to Socialist Czechoslovakia, you also came, esteemed Comrade Gorbachev, to Slovakia and that you had the possibility to familiarize yourself at least a little with the life and work of its people. For the people of Slovakia, the citizens of Bratislava, starting with the veterans of our revolutionary movement right up to the young generation, it was an opportunity to greet as cordially as possible in your person, the country closest to us, fraternal Soviet Union, which liberated our peoples — a country which for us has become an example in building a new life, the country which is guaranteed to work for peace, the help and support of which we have felt, and feel, many times, both good and bad.

Your visit has become an opportunity for our people to express the sincere feelings that they hold for the revolutionary changes in your country, so that they can also express deep respect for you, a faithful Leninist, a representative of the glorious CPSU, at the head of which you make such a significant contribution to the development of the efforts of the Soviet people, in the interest of achieving a new comprehensive progress in your country. This is why your short but fruitful visit to us during these spring days, when Bratislava and all Slovakia recall the anniversary of their liberation by the Soviet Army, has become a great holiday for Slovakia, a significant event in the life of the whole country, a spontaneous manifestation of Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship.

Slovakia, whose special guest you are, Comrade Lenart continued, has gone through great revolutionary changes under the conditions of building socialism. A once backward area is now an industrial country with a mass production, agriculture, developed culture and education. Allow me to emphasize that the progress and blossoming of the Slovak nation is the result of the realization of the Leninist policy of socialist changes by our CPCZ, the creative implementation of the Soviet example. This has enabled the formation of relations between our nations and nationalities, on the principles of equality, a voluntary fraternal union in a joint state on the principles of federation. We feel, and are aware of, the exceptional importance of your visit to Socialist Czechoslovakia, which is taking place during a time of enormous change. [v prelomovom obdobi], when the people of both countries, inspired by the general line of our Communist Parties, are increasing their efforts to speed up social economic advancement, the restructuring of the economy and all areas of the life of society, and when significant steps toward the development of socialist democracy, toward fruitful and effective use of the great advantages of socialism, are being realized.

In Czechoslovakia we are also, together with the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries, planning our goals with the pledge to achieve, as you aptly put it, more socialism, more democracy. And this is why the exchange of experiences, the deepening of cooperation with your country, the implementation of its higher forms, the harmonizing of our activity, is of key importance for our destiny. We are filled with great satisfaction that the fruitful talks you had with Comrade Husak bring significant impulses in this area for strengthening the fraternity, friendship, between the people of our countries, said Comrade Lenart.

We in Slovakia also sincerely support the agreements you have reached. We must be more enterprising in making full use of possibilities for cooperation in sciences, research and production, created for Czechoslovakia by agreements with the Soviet Union and at the same time bring about a marked progress in applying higher forms of cooperation. We are glad that new agreements on direct ties between Czechoslovak and Soviet associations and enterprises have been signed at various levels these days. We are equally encouraged that twin ties between our regions and your oblasts have now grown into a direct and concrete cooperation. For instance, the West Slovak Region cooperates with Saratov Oblast in the system growing of corn, in expanding irrigation, producing new chemical products, and in manufacturing air conditioning for combine harvesters. The Central Slovak Region has been developing cooperation with Tula Oblast in computer equipment, in hydraulics, the development of cranes. Mutually beneficial ties exist between the East Slovak Region and Uzhgorod Oblast in such branches as robotization, the manufacture of construction machinery, gear wheels, furniture, and in textiles. Twin ties between Bratislava and [name indistinct] serve as an impetus to speed up scientific and technological progress in welding, in the assembly of bridges, in the manufacture of chemical fibers, in crude oil processing, and they help to improve the system of management and the quality of product. In our cooperation we shall encourage and apply creatively, and in a revolutionary manner, all that is modern and socialist.

Dear Comrade Gorbachev, Comrade Lenart went on, allow me to stress once more that the ideas of the 27th congress and the January session of the CPSU Central Committee, which you are translating into practice in your country, are a source of revolutionary impulses and a great help in our work and our endeavor to carry out the line set out by the 17th congress of our party. Under the leadership of the CPCZ Central Committee we must also embark more decisively upon the road of new revolutionary transformations. We know that this road is not an easy one, that one has to overcome many obstacles along it, as well as the ballast of one's past. To achieve the challenging goals we have set before ourselves in the interests of a better life for our people, for the benefit of the development of socialism, requires from us greater knowledge, creativity, self-improvement, and discipline. It is essential to create scope for the development of sciences, the utilization of revolutionary practice and above all to have greater faith in the strength of our own people as the makers and masters of the country. We have to pave the way for the full assertion of their abilities, experiences and talents. We Communists in Slovakia, too, as the militant detachment of the CPCZ, will advance forward decisively along this Leninist path.

Esteemed Comrade Gorbachev, we listened with great interest to the proposals you put forward yesterday at the Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship rally in Prague on the issues of world security and the European one in particular. This is another manifestation of the peace offensive of your country and of your efforts personally. The working people in Slovakia, too, have accepted these proposals and support them warmly.

Allow me to wish the Soviet Communists, and all Soviet people in the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, many successes in the revolutionary restructuring of the life of your society. May the Leninist unity between the CPCZ and the CPSU, the eternal friendship between the nations of our two countries strengthen anew in the spirit of the revolutionary requirements of our time. Allow me to wish successes for our common endeavor to preserve peace and international security. Allow me, dear Comrade Gorbachev and esteemed Soviet guests, to raise the glass to your health and wish you many new successes in your responsible work, said Comrade Lenart at the close of his speech at the gala luncheon.

Gorbachev Departure for Home

Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1600 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today ended his official, friendly visit in Czechoslovakia, which took place at the invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee. At the Bratislava airport, Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife were seen off by Gustav Husak, general secreatry of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic, and other Czechoslovak representatives.

CTK VIEWS FORTHCOMING SHULTZ VISIT TO USSR

LD112048 Prague CTK in English 1116 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Moscow April 11 (CTK correspondent) — The Soviet proposal to open talks on operational tactical missiles separately from talks on medium-range missiles can greatly speed up the removal of this type of weapons from Europe. Beyond doubt, it will influence the program of the forthcoming Moscow Visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

NATO circles try to block talks on "Euromissiles" by linking the problem to systems of shorter range. The Soviet Union has responded to this situation by its Prague proposal which makes it possible to solve the question of operational tactical missiles alongside with the discussion on medium-range missiles.

A total of 364 U.S. medium-range missiles now sited in Western Europe can hit targets at a distance of 2500-2600 kilometers. The total number of these missiles is to rise to 572 by next year, according to NATO plans. The Soviet Union has in the European part of its territory 243 SS 20 missiles, 112 SS 4 and 18 sea-launched missiles of the SS N5 type.

The Soviet Union suggests the destruction of the whole of this potential, but the situation is complicated by proposals of the West which wants the Pershing 2 missiles to be only converted into operational tactical missiles with a range up to 800 kilometres. This can be done on the spot within a few hours, but it is equally easy the other way round. Moreover, the Pentagon intends to transfer the cruise missiles to its battleships or possibly to replace their nuclear warheads with conventional ones.

While the West links the elimination of "Euromissiles" with a "buildup" in weapons of a lower category, the Soviet Union wants nuclear potentials limited and not transferred, converted or even expanded.

George Shultz is expected in Moscow on Monday and reports from Washington indicate that he has his own ideas about the agenda of his talks. As a prelude to the new significant round of Soviet-U.S. talks, Washington chose an "espionage" scandal around "delicate" contacts of U.S. soldiers guarding the new building of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow on which the U.S. policy is now focused with the badly concealed objective to cast doubt on Moscow's reliability as a partner in talks.

However, the White House cannot ignore the proposal the Soviet Union made on Friday which is, just as the "zero option" a direct reply to the West's objections. Moscow expects the United States to realize, despite the nervous atmosphere, where demagogic propaganda ends and a serious political dialogue starts.

GDR'S KLEIBER VISITS, DISCUSSES ECONOMIC 'CHANGES'

LD122109 Prague CTK in English 1824 GMT 12 Apr 87

[Text] Prague April 12 (CTK) -- Czechoslovak Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal held talks today with visiting deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the German Democratic Republic Guenther Kleiber.

Their debate concentrated on bilateral economic cooperation and scheduled changes in the Czechoslovak national economy. Both officals agreed contacts between the two countries in economy, science and technology should be further expanded.

Also today, Guenther Kleiber conferred with Czechoslovak First Deputy Prime Minister Rudolf Rohlicek on plans for further expansion of international economic cooperation within the Council for Mutual Assistance.

COMMENT ON CREATION OF NUCLEAR-FREE ZONES

AU081929 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 3 Apr 87

[W.M. commentary: "Impulse for Nuclear-Free Zones"]

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev's initiative calling for an agreement with the United States on the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe has generally provided vigorous stimuli for the international discussion on disarmament. The debate over the creation of nuclear-free zones in various areas has been activated as well.

It is encouraging that the almost 25-year-old idea of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, which dates back to former Finnish President Urho Kekkonen, is now beginning to materialize. At their Reykjavik meeting, the foreign ministers of Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and Finland worked out the close relationship between such a zone and the problem of eliminating intermediate-range missiles. They stressed that the changed situation has made it easier for them to take the decision to form a working group that is now to examine the preconditions for establishing a nuclear-free zone.

Recently, statements of prominent representatives from the U.S. peace movement have become known which concern our initiative: the proposal for creating a nuclear-free corridor, prepared jointly by the SED and the SPD. As soon as an agreement on intermediate-range missiles in Europe has been reached, additional steps for creating a wider space between nuclear and conventional forces could and should be taken, stated retired Rear Admiral Gene La Roque, head of the Washington Center for Defense Information. Within this framework such a corridor would be a decisive step forward, the Admiral said.

"Create the corridor," said SPD disarmament expert Egon Bahr in the most recent issue of the journal DIE NEUE GESELLSCHAFT/FRANKFURT HEFTE, as a recommendation to those who are anxiously asking what is to happen with short-range missiles following the conclusion of an agreement on intermediate-range missiles. Through the Soviet proposal on the elimination of intermediate-range missiles, the corridor plan does indeed gain particular significance. From such an area several hundred meters wide all nuclear warheads and carriers would be withdrawn, also including dual-purpose artillery.

As Erich Honecker explained at the beginning of the week, such a corridor could be agreed upon at short notice, established, and verified at the same time. Thus the negotiations on eliminating all nuclear weapons and on conventional disarmament in Europe have been provided with a political-military background which enhances the chances of success. It is, therefore, worthwhile for all states — for the central European states in particular — to ponder the possibilities that our proposal offers. Reason, realism, and farsightedness are required.

NATIONAL PEOPLE'S ARMY EXERCISES BEGIN

LD101105 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1023 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Berlin, 10 Apr (ADN) — The previously announced troop exercise of the National People's Army in the Cottbus, Wittenberg (Halle Bezirk), Torgau (Leipzig Bezirk), and Goerlitz (Dresden Bezirk) region began today. The troops left their garrisons in the middle of the week and took up positions in accordance with instructions.

Up to 17,000 army staff are taking part in the exercise, which is led by Colonel General Horst Stechbarth, deputy minister of national defense and chief of the National People's Army Ground Forces Command. The purpose of the two-sided troop exercise is to test the level of troop training and further perfect coordination between the participating ground and air forces.

In accordance with the final document of the Stockholm Conference, observers from all CSCE member-states have been invited to this exercise. Generals, officers, and diplomats from 22 signatory states of the Helsinki Final Act are expected to visit the training area on Monday.

MINISTER MOCK SPEAKS ON GDR-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS

AU061852 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 3 Apr 87 pp 1-2

[Text] Vienna (ADN) — Bilateral relations between the GDR and Austria have reached a high level. This was stated in the 1986 foreign policy report of Austria's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which Alois Mock, vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs, has now presented to the public in Vienna. In this connection Mock mentioned the reciprocal visits at the ministerial level that have been carried out successfully.

The report stresses Austria's extensive participation in the Leipzig Fair as well as the agreements concluded between Guenter Mittag, deputy chairman of the GDR State Council, and Chancellor Franz Vranitsky on the development of economic relations in the year 1987. As regards scientific-technical cooperation, the report cites the participation of Austrian scientists in around 40 programs. In this field several years of experience can be used as a basis.

In foreign policy, priority will be given to the policy of dialogue and in the economic sphere growth-oriented policy will be continued, the report states.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH ROMANIA — Dr Hans Joachim Lauck, GDR minister of heavy machine construction and installations construction, and Marin Nedelcu, Romanian minister of machine construction, discussed problems related to further economic and scientific-technical cooperation. Central to the discussion was the exchange of commodities in connection with specialization and cooperation involving, among other things, ship building, equipment for surface mines and fittings, the building of rolling stock, and ventilation and refrigeration technology. [Text] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar 87 p 3 AU]

TALKS WITH USSR MINISTER — Felix Meier, GDR minister of electrical engineering and electronics, conducted talks with Oleg Anifimov, USSR minister of electrical equipment industry. Questions concerning long-range cooperation in the field of electrical power equipment were deliberated. Direct cooperation between production facilities in the GDR and the USSR has played a particular role in this context. [Text] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar 87 p 3 AU]

BUDAPEST VIEWS GORBACHEV VISIT TO CSSR

LD120903 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0610 GMT 12 Apr 87

[From the "Seven Days on Five Continents" program]

[Excerpts] We have received an account of the visit to Czechoslovakia by the Soviet party general secretary from our correspondent in Prague, Nora Somogyi.

[Somogyi) The visit will end in a few hours [as heard] and the joint communique will be published after this. However, the several hundred correspondents are already able to assess the negotiations, the proposals and the reception itself. The reception surprised many, because the people of Prague received the general secretary on the square in front of the castle, in the streets, and in the plants of the CKD by expressing their unequivocal support for the social and economic reforms, and those who spoke to Mikhail Gorbachev on the streets of Prague and Bratislava made this clear to him too.

The official negotiations, were characterized by Gustav Husak as showing a complete identity of views in respect of the need for a transformation and in respect of bilateral relations.

At the mass rally on Friday [10 April] new and more precise proposals were made about the reduction of European military capabilities. [passage omitted]

The link between the socialist countries and their parties received new emphasis in the Prague speech. Gorbachev emphasized the sovereignty of these parties, stating that they are responsible first of all to their own peoples for the policy which they shape independently and on the basis of national characteristics. At the same time he pointed out that the interest of the socialist community requires their allies be respected and that shared interests be taken into account, too. No party is in a specially favored position nor in possession of the absolute truth, Mikhail Gorbachev said in his Prague speech.

STATE DEPARTMENT'S SIMONS QUERIED ON ARMS STANCE

LD101148 Budapest MTI in English 0600 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Budapest, April 9 (MTI) — Among the major subjects of the Soviet-American foreign ministerial talks in Moscow due to start shortly, such as arms control, regional issues, human rights and bilateral relations, "the problem of disarmament is likely to attract the greatest attention and we do hope to make some progress", Thomas Simons, head of the division specializing in Soviet and East-European affairs of the Foreign Ministry of the United States, and who will be a member of the American delegation in Moscow, told the Hungarian radio.

In the interview broadcast Thursday night Simons in answer to a query on a possible linkage among the various subjects said that "linkage" is by no means the point of the U.S. policy. "We do not in principle say halt to progress in a particular area, just because elsewhere things are turning not the way we want them to be. What we would like to see is a militarily significant, verifiable decrease in armaments, of equal extent to take place. We would also like to see the Soviet Union withdraw from Afghanistan, but we don't want to halt the disarmament process because the Soviet Union has not worked its ideas on the issue."

Simons said the American stand has "very closely" been verified against that of their Western allies, because "to start with they assumed that the whole issue of the balance of security might be on the agenda." Besides, "the allies are practically affected in certain issues, such as Euroarms, and whatever the agreement is going to be, they will have to take concrete measures." That does not mean that Shultz "is going to represent each NATO country individually, but he is to express the common views of the allies as well, during his visit to Moscow," said Simons, who declined to answer the question whether Shultz was going to deliver a message from the President to Moscow.

Simons spoke at length of the issue of short range missiles, which came to the fore in the context of the "Eurorockets". He admitted that it was the USA that pressed for the Zero Alternative at the time, and now with the Soviet Union being ready to take it, shorter range missiles "have also popped up", and finding a solution is becoming more complicated. As Simons said formerly all political energy and attention with both sides were concentrated on medium-range weaponry and "nobody thought of the shorter range arms. Now, when progress has been made, you have to pay the price for neglect. But that is natural. When you hae solved one problem you face another." However, Simons stated that he is "not a pessimist" and thought that as a result of the Moscow talks "a draft as a maximum could be arrived at, which then could be turned into a contract within weeks or a month. But not just two countries are involved here, but allies' aggregate interests, so both sides should consult their partners as well."

As for the summit, Simons thought that the American side would take the stand in Moscow that the invitation of Gorbachev is "on the table" and that invitation is valid "without any prerequisites." Simons believes that the arguments about the U.S. embassy building in Moscow is not aimed at harming the atmosphere just before the meeting. He added: "It is a serious problem for us to see to arranging the meeting under such circumstances where our embassy and communication lines might not be tap-proof." He admitted that the American side says itself that "It has been aware of the problem for years", but the subect becoming an issue now "has not been caused by the Americans". He added tht a foreign secretary visiting another capital will need a secret line for communication., But we are working at it and hope that the talks will be concrete and useful and eventaully lead to progress.

Finally, in answer to a question about the role of small countries he stressed: "I think small countries have got a very important role. As for Hungary in particular, he said that Hungary "is active" and has traditionally been in support of the efforts to build understanding between East and West."

[quotation marks as received]

SARLOS-LED DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR NETHERLANDS

LD080908 Budapest MTI in English 0915 GMT 8 Apr 87

[Text] Budapest, April 8, (MTI) -- a delegation of the Hungarian Parliament left Budapest Wednesday to officially visit the Netherlands at the invitation of the parliament of the Netherlands. The delegation is headed by Istvan Sarlos, president of the National Assembly.

The delegation is to hold talks with the presidents of the two chambers of the Staten General and other leading personalities of the Dutch social and economic life on the present state and prospects for development of the coopoeration between the two countries and their parliaments.

WARSAW PAPERS DISCUSS GORBACHEV PRAGUE INITIATIVE

LD111638 Warsaw PAP in English 1525 GMT 11 Apr 87

["Papers on Gorbachev's Prague Initiative" -- PAP headline; quotation marks as received]

[Text] Warsaw, April 11, A running comment on Mikhail Gorbachev's new peace offer made in Prague, Published by ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI Army daily today, reads in part: "All those already thinking the modern way and those who have not yet reoriented themselves, were presented by Gorbachev with a thick package of ambitious proposals which, however, require a different outlook of the contemporary world.

The consistency and coherence of the peace proposals forwarded by the Soviet Union and several socialist countries, Poland included, deserve special attention, the paper remarks. "It is no truism to point to the relation — frequently stressed by the Soviet leader -- between peaceful existence and harmonious economic development of individual states and, for of all, to point to worldwide peace and the guarantor of the success of the social-economic changes that have been initiated in the Soviet Union", it writes.

"The Soviet leader's initiatives testify to the comprehensive nature of the strategy pursued by the land of soviets and its allies. In particular, the section in Gorbachev's speech referring to the so-feasible vision of a new deal in Europe proves that the struggle for peace and disarmament encompasses every plane of the Soviet international and home policy. It also clearly follows out of Gorbachev's speech that the Soviet Union claims no monopoly on peace issues but presses for the idea of a nuclear and war-free world to become the domain of entire mankind, ZOLNIERZ opined.

It is a call of time to reiterate that without the openness to modern thinking there can be no successful implementation of all that defies hitherto sterotypes of the world that has a nuclear pile for its foundation. This is the way of thinking for which the Soviet leader appealed from Prague, concludes the Army paper.

Another Warsaw daily ZYCIE WARSZAWY contends that Gorbachev's latest proposal removes the obstacles which were likely to prevent successful negotiation on other planes. It also carries prospects for agreement in fields where such opportunities have not been seen until recently, it writes.

"Moscow is now offering a fresh proof for both, the flexibility of its policy on questions of greatest importance for the future and for its readiness to continue its efforts up to an agreement that would give Europe relief from its nuclear burden" the paper elaborated.

It seems no coincidence that such a vital Soviet declaration on short-range missiles was aired from the territory of Czechoslovakia. It is here, after all, and also in the GDR, where the Soviet Union deployed its missiles in 1984. Our continent is approaching solutions that may make these and other weapons a requisite rejected by the Europeans, reads the conclusion of ZYCIE commentary.

'FREEDOM AND PEACE' GROUP MEMBERS ARRESTED

LD101731 Hamburg DPA in German 1358 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Krakow (DPA) — In Krakow today, around a dozen members of the opposition pacifist group "Freedom and Peace" were arrested. They had previously told Western journalists of their intention to demand the removal of Soviet troops stationed in Poland and other Eastern European states in front of the Soviet Consulate. Among those arrested is the former leading member of the regional organization of the Solidarity trade union, Stanislaw Hanzek.

The spokesman for "Freedom and Peace" in Krakow, Bogdan Klich, had previously told the journalists that they wanted to give the Soviet consul a letter to Mikhail Gorbachev. In this, the signatories demand, in addition to the removal of troops, the simultaneous dissolution of NATO and the Warsaw Pact as well as the independence of Europe from the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. After the experiences of the last few months observers expect that those arrested will be released within 48 hours and perhaps given fines by a disciplinary court.

Western Journalists Arrested

LD101735 Hamburg DPA in German 1532 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Excerpts] Warsaw (DPA) — Three representatives of Western news agencies were arrested on Friday, [10 April] in Krakow and held by police for 3 and 1/2 hours. Among them was DPA staff member Piotr Wilczynski. The journalists had taken part with other Western correspondents in a press conference at which representatives of the "Freedom and Peace" pacifist movement had announced that they wanted to hand the Soviet consul a letter to party leader Mikhail Gorbachev. [passage omitted]

The three journalists, who included Witold Ziolkowski of ANSA, the Italian news agency, and a photographer from REUTER, the British agency, as well as the DPA correspondent, were apprehended by policemen in front of the Soviet Consulate and taken to a police station. They went at first to the same cell as the previously arrested pacifists, and were then released after questioning. The "Peace and Freedom" representatives were still in custody as of late Friday afternoon.

Solidarity Members, Others Arrested

AU111053 Paris AFP in English 1047 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Warsaw, April 11 (AFP) — Five people, including two members of the outlawed Solidarity union, were arrested late Friday in the southwestern Polish towns of Wroclaw, opposition sources said Saturday.

The Solidarity militants were named as Krzysztof Turkowski and Wojchiech Myslewski. Police seized banned publications and typewriters at their homes, the sources added. Two members of the independent pacifist group Liberty and Peace, named as Tomasz Wacko and Leszek Budrewicz, were also arrested, along with the wife of the leader of an outlawed group, Solidarnosc Walczaca, or Fighting Solidarity, which has no links with the banned union.

The leader of the group, Kornel Morawiecki, is currently in hiding, the sources said. All five were still being held Saturday afternoon.

FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

Arrival Statement

LD102115 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1730 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond has arrived in Poland on an official visit.

At Warsaw Okecie Airport, the French guest was greeted by Marian Orzechowski at the steps of the plane.

Jean-Bernard Raimond proceeded directly from the airport to Victory Square, where he laid a wreath decorated with a tricolor ribbon on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He also signed the visitors' book.

An almost hour-long meeting between Marian Orzechowski and Jean-Bernard Raimond was held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The ambassadors of both states were present. Next, plenary talks began, chaired by the foreign ministers of Poland and France. During the talks, bilateral relations were assessed.

In the afternoon, in the office of the Council of Ministers, the French guest was received by Deputy Premier Wladyslaw Gwiazda.

Jean-Bernard Raimond gave an interview to a television news correspondent.

[Unidentified correspondent] Minister, what impression has our country made on you after having been away from Poland for 3 years?

[Raimond, speaking in French fading into Polish translation] I was France's ambassador in Warsaw, where I spent 2 and 1/2 years. I am very pleased that I can set foot on Polish soil again. This is my first visit to a socialist country as minister of foreign affairs. I also find it deeply satisfying that I can contribute to the rebuilding of constructive political dialogue between our countries. The same concerns our economic relations, whose development we regard as indispensable. I think that one cannot have good political and cultural relations without mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

France To Boost Aid

AU101627 Paris AFP in English 1536 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Warsaw, April 10 (AFP) — French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond, who began Friday a two-day official visit to Poland, told Polish officials that France would "significantly" boost its financial aid to Warsaw in technological and cultural sectors, French diplomatic sources here said.

In his talks with his Polish counterpart Marian Orzechowski and deputy Foreign Minister Tadeuz Olechowski, Mr. Raimond, who was ambassador to Warsaw from 1982 to 1985, said France would donate to Poland four blood test instruments for the detection of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), the sources said.

Other bilateral projects include increased funding for the promotion of French books in Poland and additional scholarships for exchange programs in the arts, the sources said.

Franco-Polish relations, strained by the December 1981 proclamation of martial law in Poland and the crackdown on the Solidarity trade union, were revived in 1985 when President Francois Mitterrand met in Paris with Polish leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Mr. Raimond, the first French Government official to visit Poland since 1981, has said he would also meet with members of the opposition.

In an interview with the Polish daily ZYCIE WARSZAWY published Friday, Mr. Raimond said that in his talks with Polish officials, he would "address, with frankness that is characteristic of the dialogue between the French and the Poles, the problems before us (...) and give our relations a fresh start."

Met by Jaruzelski, Messner

LD112141 Warsaw PAP in English 1827 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Warsaw, April 11 — President of the Polish Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski today received French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond, who is now on an official visit to Poland.

Referring to his meeting with President Mitterrand in Paris, December, 1985, Wojciech Jaruzelski voiced his satisfaction over an improvement taking place in the Polish-French relations recently. Both statesmen expressed their willingness to further develop them. They also talked about the main problems connected with Europe's security.

Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski took part in the conversation.

Also today, Minister Raimond was received by Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner. The two discussed bilateral relations, with particular emphasis on economic cooperation between Poland and France. Both sides declared their willingness to act for the upgrading of this cooperation.

Vice-Foreign Minister Tadeusz Olechowski participated in the talks.

Minister Raimond today met with the Sejm (parliament) Speaker Roman Malinowski, who briefed him on the Sejm's role and initiatives in the process of democratization of life in Poland. They also discussed the cooperation between both parliaments. Malinowski renewed the invitation for president of the French National Assembly Jacques Chaban-Delmas to pay a visit to Poland.

The guest acquainted himself with the plan of the Poland-France friendship group in the Sejm to take part in the celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of General de Gaulle's visit to Poland and to initiate contacts between deputy committees for foreign affairs in both parliaments. The Sejm also intends to organize solemnities marking the 200th anniversary of the French revolution.

Chairman of the Poland-France group, deputy Ryszard Wojna took part in the conversation. All the meetings were attended by the two countries' ambassadors.

Favors Full Normal Relations

LD102252 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2100 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Marian Orzechowski and [French Foreign Minister] Jean-Bernard Raimond declared themselves [in favor of] a full normalization of relations in all spheres, during talks in Warsaw. Wladyslaw Gwiazda received the French Foreign Minister. The state of Franco-Polish economic cooperation was assessed and problems of bilateral credit and financial relations were raised. In the evening Marian Orzechowski hosted an official dinner in honor of Jean-Bernard Raimond.

In his speech, the head of Polish diplomacy spoke about the history of traditional friendship between the two states and nations. He also said that it is in the two sides' interests to achieve an improvement in relations in all spheres. He also stressed the role of Poland and France and their joint action in the cause of security on our continent.

In turn, Minister Raimond said that France once again desires to find the path of dialogue with Poland, and expressed hope that his visit would start a new stage in mutual relations.

Report on Visit

LD111613 Paris International Service in French 1100 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] The sound of the "Marseillaise" is being heard in Warsaw, where Foreign Affairs Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond has been since yesterday. For 6 years now, relations between Poland and France have been standoffish, to say the least. One may recall General Jaruzelski's visit to the Elysee just over a year ago and the troubles it caused for then-Prime Minister Laurent Fabius.

Today an effort is being made to normalize the situation, but not on the basis of exclusivity. [sentence as heard] Our special correspondent is on the line from Moscow. Here is (Fabrice Lequintrec):

[Begin (Lequintrec) recording] Pluralism, with its associated values, is what insures success for Western societies. This is what Jean-Bernard Raimond said in an interview granted to a Catholic weekly. Today the French minister has chosen to take into account the whole ensemble of components of Polish society. He was received this morning by Gen Jaruzelski, by the speaker of the Sejm, and by the prime minister. However, he does not intend to limit himself to this. He will meet the primate of Poland, Monsignor Glemp, this afternoon and undoubtedly will make concrete gestures toward those who have placed their hope in Solidarity. At this very moment, Jean-Bernard Raimond is preparing to have a private dinner with opposition personalities. The French delegation does not want to mention any names for the moment, so as not to lay the minister's interlocutors open to possible last-minute harrassment from the authorities or the police. Yesterday, the French and the Poles agreed to relaunch their cultural cooperation. On an economic level, however, the problem of Poland's foreign debt continues to loom over the horizon.

This is (Fabrice Lequintrec) for France-Inter in Warsaw. [end recording]

Speaks With Counterpart, Departs

LD112234 Warsaw PAP in English 2038 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Warsaw, April 11 — French Minister for External Relations Jean-Bernard Raimond ended an official visit to Poland today.

He was bidden farewell at the Okecie Airport in Warsaw by Minister of Foreign Affairs Marian Orzechowski.

Minister Orzechowski today held a press conference for Polish and French newsmen covering the visit.

We were at one with Minister Raimond that the current state of Polish-French relations does not correspond to neither our needs nor possibilities, stated Marian Orzechowski while reporting on the course and substance of the talks. [sentence as received] We adopted the principle that we must face the future and not look backwards. Of course, we do not forget about the past. We want to preserve from the period of the seventies, when our relations with France were termed as priviledged, that which is lasting, solid and on which one can build, he stated.

Poland wants France to be one of her chief Western partners. We want our relations with France to be good, comprehensive, balanced, long-term, solid and resistant to short-lived tendencies. The point is to shape them in a way which would enable them to stand the test of time. I think that there will be no exaggeration in a statement holding that not only our nations but all of Europe need such constructive relations between Poland and France, stated the foreign affairs minister.

The minister characterized concrete undertakings aimed at improving mutual relations, such as regular consultations, ministerial, interparliamentary and social contacts.

Speaking about international issues the chief of Polish diplomacy pointed out that the direct contact with the external relations minister of France [title as received] has made it possible to work out a more precise stance on the issue of peace and security. We have stated with satisfaction that the exchange of views between our delegations at the CSCE conference can set an example of cooperation between states of different political systems. Minister Orzechowski described the invitation he received to pay an official visit to France as a confirmation of the will to continue political dialogue.

Minister Orzechowski also replied to questions concerning, among other things, issues tied with cooperation between youth, Soviet disarmament initiatives, economic issues and the talks of the French guest with officials of Polish political life.

French External Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond [title as received] also met with newsmen. He stated that his visit was a significant event for the entirety of French-Polish relations. The visit, the first one since October 1981 in contacts between both countries on the level of foreign affairs ministers, at the same time constituted the first step to starting normal relations following the period of the hard test.

Briefing the journalists on the course of the talks, Jean-Bernard Raimond stressed that their subject matter included the most important international issues, such as East-West relations, issues of disarmament, issues of relations between the EEC and the CMEA. We have also spoken extensively about bilateral relations agreeing on the need to develop political dialogue. It will be expressed in a concrete form in an official visit by the Polish chief of diplomacy to Paris, the presence of a French Government representative at the Poznan Fair, consultations on the level of vice ministers of foreign affairs and the session of the mixed economic commission to take place still this year, Minister Raimond stated.

Referring to the possibility of developing bilateral relations in respective fields, Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond pointed to the need of restoring the former dynamics to economic relations. Culture and science is the field in which one can expect the most rapid improvement. Minister Raimond announced that outlays from the ministry's budget for this goal will be increased.

As a former French ambassador to Poland I was happy at the opportunity to return to Warsaw. I would like this visit to become an impulse for an accelerated development of relations between Poland and France.

A majority of questions addressed to the chief of French diplomacy concerned Polish-French relations. Replying to one of them, the minister stated that Poland has always taken up an important place in the entirety of French external policy. As far as modern times are concerned, there are no reasons at present why Poland should not be treated differently from other countries, stated Minister Raimond.

Asked to comment on France's stand towards manifestations of revisionism in the FRG, the French minister stated that France's stance as regards Poland's western borders has not changed and was the same as that formulated years ago by General de Gaulle.

Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond stated that on the sidelines of his official visit he called on Poland's primate Cardinal Jozef Glemp.

WALESA MEETS WITH FRENCH FOREIGN AFFAIRS DELEGATES

AU121928 Paris AFP in English 1924 GMT 12 Apr 87

[Text] Warsaw, April 12 (AFP) -- Leader of the outlawed Solidarity trade union, Lech Walesa had lunch in his home town of Gdansk Sunday with two members of a French Foreign Affairs delegation.

The Director of Political Affairs in the French Foreign Affairs Department, Jean-Francois Noiville, and the department's Director of Europe Jacques Blot, stayed on after the departure Saturday of Foreign Affairs minister Jean-Bernard Raimond, to attend the meeting.

Mr. Walesa said afterwards that he was "very satisfied" and that there had been agreement by those present on the need for pluralism in Poland.

"We examined all subjects, and it appears to me that we can count on France's understanding in the future," said the Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Mr. Walesa said the possibility of a trip to France had also been discussed, but no plans made.

He said he had "met with problems" trying to organise a visit to Italy at the end of April, following an invitation by Italian unions.

He said he had not yet received a reply to his request for leave from his job, which he needed before he could be given a passport.

POLISH REFUGEES IN BERLIN UNDER HARSHER RULES

AU121754 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 6 Apr 87 p 6

[Report by Jerzy Weber, West Berlin permanent correspondent: "Asylum or Return"]

[Text] Just as in the FRG, a new policy toward Polish and Hungarian citizens on illegal extended stays is also coming into effect in West Berlin as of 1 May. Senator for Internal Affairs Kewenig told journalists that the practice of tolerating extended stays in this city (the so-called "Duldung") will no longer be applied to citizens of these countries. Accordng to the new regulations, these people will be subject to normal asylum procedure. If their requests for asylum (granted only for political reasons) are turned down, they will have to leave the city immediately.

The new rules do not apply to Poles and Hungarians already in the city. At present there are about 12,000 Poles in West Berlin. Eventually, the new rules might also apply to citizens of other socialist countries.

There seem to be two reasons behind these changes. One of them is the realization that it is difficult to uphold the fiction of general political persecution in these countries, which was one of the main reasons why the "Duldung" was introduced. The other reason is the clear rise in unemployment in West Berlin. The new rules are meant to protect the Berlin labor market against arrivals from outside.

ZHIVKOV DEPARTS AFTER TALKS WITH JARUZELSKI

LD101434 Warsaw PAP in English 1257 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Warsaw, April 10 — General secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party CC and President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov today ended his working visit of friendship to Poland paid at the invitation from PUWP CC first secretary and president of the Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski.

The Polish-Bulgarian talks were continued at the historical palace at Otwock Wielki near Warsaw today. In the morning, Jaruzelski met Zhivkov, and a joint communique was issued on the course of their meeting and the contents of their talks.

Next, Polish-Bulgarian plenary talks were held under the chairmanship of Jaruzelski and Zhivkov.

After the talks, in the presence of both leaders, vice-premiers Wladyslaw Gwiazda and Kiril Zarev signed an agreement between the Polish and Bulgarian Governments on direct coproduction and cooperation in science and technology between Polish and Bulgarian enterprises and organizations.

Todor Zhivkov, bidden farewell by Wojciech Jaruzelski and members of Poland's supreme authorities, left Warsaw this afternoon.

'TRANSCRIPT' OF URBAN 31 MARCH NEWS CONFERENCE

AU101640 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 6 Apr 87 pp 5, 6

["Transcript" of 31 March press conference held by Jerzy Urban for foreign and Polish journalists in Warsaw]

[Text] Another press conference was held in the INTERPRESS center in Warsaw on 31 March, during which Jerzy Urban, the press spokesman for the government, answered questions from foreign and Polish journalists. During the first part of the conference Dr Zbigniew Januszek, under secretary of state of the Ministry of Labor, Wages, and Social Affairs, informed the journalists about the coming session of the European Conference of Ministers of Social Affairs in Warsaw. Below is a transcript of this conference.

I cordially welcome you to the Press Center of the Polish INTERPRESS Agency at the weekly conference of Minister Jerzy Urban, the press spokesman for the government. Today we also have with us Dr Zbigniew Januszek, under secretary of state of the Ministry of Labor, Wages, and Social Affairs, who will inform you about the coming Warsaw session of the European Conference of the Ministers of Social Affairs. I ask Minister Januszek to speak.

Z. Januszek: Ladies and gentlemen, a conference of ministers of social affairs will be held in Warsaw between 6 and 11 April. Our government has organized this conference in agreement and cooperation with the UN Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. This Warsaw conference is one of the regional conferences to be held in Vienna this fall. The Vienna conference will be convened by the United Nations between 7 and 15 September. Conferences such as the one in Warsaw have already been held in Africa. An Arab conference was also held, as were the conferences for the west Asian and Pacific countries. I admit that, because of the subject of the conference, social policy, we hope that the European countries will have much to say in this matter, and that their participation in the Vienna conference will be significant.

The previous regional European conference was held in The Hague in 1972 — that is, 15 years ago. That is why we intend at our Warsaw conference to appraise social policy in Europe in the context of the changing needs and determining factors since The Hague conference —that is, since 1972. At our conference we also wish to find something like a common denominator, but this would be too much to expect. Actually, we want to indicate along which lines the development of social policy and social progress is taking place. From the viewpoint of needs and issues of administering social programs, we will appraise social problems connected with migration, the effectiveness and cost of social policy, financing, and training. We will present our own plans concerning social issues up to the year 2000.

The Warsaw Conference will base itself on the document worked out by the European Center of Research and Training in Social Care in Vienna. We have sent this document, together with invitations, to the participants in the conference. The subject matter of the document is most interesting, and I think this will determine the lines of the discussion at the conference. There are many subjects to be discussed. It would be difficult to mention them all here, but in any case, in its document, social policy issues against the background of the changing conditions connected with economic and sociocultural development, it also discusses demographic issues, social policy in societies that are aging, family life now and in the future, and the role of women in society. These are just some of the subjects listed in the document worked out by the Vienna center.

I have spoken of these subjects because the subject matter of the document will no doubt influence the course and nature of the Warsaw conference. We have sent invitations to 37 governments of the countries that are members of the Economic Commission for Europe, including the United States and Canada. Most of these countries have accepted our invitations, and acceptances are still coming in. At this moment we know that 28 countries will attend our conference. As I have said, we have sent out materials relating to the conference and have invited bodies interested in the issues in question — bodies connected with the United Nations. Mrs Margaret Antsee, deputy secretary general of the United Nations, has been invited to attend our conference. On 1 March Mrs Antsee took charge of the UN Bureau and Center of Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. Our conference has been prepared in cooperation with this bureau.

I would also like to say that the conference will be held in the Victoria Hotel between 6 and 11 April and that a press office will be attached to it. We want to ensure that the conference tackles issues that are of interest not only to people dealing with them professionally, but also to people at large, who should be informed of the results of the conference. That is why I invite you to take an interest in our conference.

This is all I wanted to tell you in brief about the conference. If you have questions I am at your disposal.

[New speaker] Thank you very much. During the first part of the conference I will ask you to put questions to Minister Januszek in connection with the European Conference of Ministers of Social Affairs. Please ask questions.

Stanislaw Filipczak, PAP for foreign countries: Could you specify which countries have definitely accepted the invitations to the conference?

Z. Januszek: The following countries have accepted the invitations and named their delegates: Austria, Belgium, Belorussia, Bulgaria, CSSR, Finland, France, Spain, Ireland, Canada, GDR, Norway, Portugal, FRG, and San Marino. Giuseppe Bertello, a representative of the Holy See and a councillor of the Vatican Mission in Switzerland, will attend as an observer. The Swiss ambassador will also attend as an observer. Delegations from Sweden, Ukraine, Hungary, Great Britain, and the USSR will be present. The following countries have confirmed their participation, without naming their delegates: Yugoslavia and the United States -- 2 delegates each -- and Netherlands and Turkey. The attendance of Greece is still open in that it accepted the invitation without naming its delegation. Denmark has still not replied to our invitation. Delegations from some countries have still not been named. A representative from CEMA and representatives from the EEC and ILO will attend.

Ladies and Gentlemen, any more questions for Minister Januszek? If not, then let us have Minister Jerzy Urban's press conference. Please address questions to Minister Urban:

Renata Marsch, DPA: As was announced on television yesterday, the 9.6-percent increase in food prices is calculated as the annual average. Could you tell us what percentage food prices actually went up before 27 March of this year? I want to know the absolute percentage of food price increases before 27 March.

Urban: About 12 percent, and not about 30 percent as some Western mass media have reported.

Roman Rolnick, UPI: Does Poland hope for some loan from the IMF in connection with the present price hikes. Does Poland expect that such a loan might be given?

Urban: There is no direct connection between the price hikes in Poland and Poland's chances of obtaining a loan from the IMF. There is an indirect connection in that Poland is carrying out economic reforms and continues to base its economy to an increasing extent on economic foundations. This is compatible with the indications of the analysis of the Polish economy carried out by the IMF. We think that, generally speaking, the economic processes taking place in Poland are favorable toward cooperation with the IMF and the World Bank. Please do not search for some direct connections in this regard.

Boris Dankov, RABOTNICHESKO DELO, Bulgaria: In the socialist countries the movement of prices is the state's concern, but in capitalist countries this movement is virtually uncontrolled. Do you have any views about the price movement in those countries and about curbs on social benefits?

Urban: Price hikes are painful for people everywhere if they are not matched by an increase in wages and social benefits. In many Western countries social policy is taking a turn to the right, and this result in curbing social programs or dropping new social programs. The specific characteristic of the economic and social policies of the socialist countries, including Poland, is — at least in the case of Poland -- not to weaken the crux of socialism, social insurance, while basing the economy on economically rational foundations to an ever increasing extent. However, despite your question, we do not take the view that the movement of prices is and should be the state's concern. Our economic program seeks to extend the range of contracted prices--that is, of prices that are fixed by producers and not by the state. On the other hand, we take the view that the role of the state is to protect people against the results of excessive price hikes and to see that prices are fixed in an honest way.

Jackson Diehl, WASHINGTON POST: I think last week you promised to explain to us the meaning of the second stage of the economic reform without discussing price hikes and the elimination of subsidies. We would like to be told about the specific meaning of the second stage of the economic reform, especially in light of the sessions of the Economic Reform Commission. We would also like to know when the press will publish the draft opinions on development of the economic reform in Poland.

Urban: The Economic Reform Commission discussed the draft document on the second stage of the economic reform. On the strength of this draft, which was discussed and subjected to a critical analysis — this was a many-sided analysis, because commission members put forward their proposals on a variety of aspects -- a government draft will be worked out, in which the government will adopt certain specific proposals. I think that this process will take several [kilka] weeks at least. On the other hand, the publication of the initial draft that was discussed is another matter. The simple fact is that editorial work in this regard is still continuing because the draft is very extensive and is of a specialist nature. It will be published in some summarized form, which is under preparation. I hope that this summary will be published soon and that I will be able to discuss the issue in more detail during this conference.

Renata March, DPA: Coming back to price hikes; the annual plan stipulates that at present subsidies would stay at last year's level. In view of the fact that the present price increases are lower than planned, will this level of subsidies be maintained to the end of the year? Will the figure named in the plan be maintained?

Urban: Unfortunately, I am unable to reply in the affirmative. No doubt the cuts in the price increases upset the structure of the plan. Now we will have to find economic resources to fill in this gap, but the government will try not to depart from the program to curb subsidies. It will try to make up the shortfall by some other measures — say, thrift measures — in order to cut this year's subsidies by 15 percent.

Stanislaw Filipczak, PAP for foreign countries: Could you comment on the recent talks between CEMA and the EEC?

Urban: The talks have not ended. They have been conducted in a constructive spirit. We are interested in a CEMA-EEC accord. These talks will continue.

Leszek Pawlowicz, CBS News: What about the difficulties in connection with last year's one-sided extension of East Germany's territorial waters. Is there free access to the Baltic from Swinoujscie harbor? Can dredgers do their work unimpeded? Can fishermen sail freely?

Urban: Yes, they can. Navigation continues normally. Let me explain that the two countries have extended their territorial waters to 12 nautical miles. For some time talks have been going on on the subject of the lateral extension of territorial waters. Having extended its territorial waters to 12 miles in 1977, Poland demarcated its waters laterally with the USSR. As for the demarcation with the GDR, talks are continuing. Reports have appeared in the West that allegedly the GDR fleet stops Polish vessels. This is incorrect. The Szczecin-Swinoujscie harbors enjoy full direct access to the Baltic and its sailing routes.

Barbara Drozdz, ZYCIE WARSAWY: My daily published a statement by the Secretariat of the Episcopate today. Any comment on this statement?

Urban: We have discussed this statement very carefully in the same way as we discuss other statements issued by the Episcopate and its bodies. We regard this statement as rational and we share its concern. This was also clearly demonstrated by W. Jaruzelski's speech at the most recent session of the Economic Reform Commission, to which Mr Diehl referred in his question. W. Jaruzelski termed as anemic the present changes in the structure of the economy, pointing to the reasons for the present poor oxidizing, as he put it, of the economy. He listed objective and subjective reasons for which the reform has been watered down. I quote: "The meaning of going over from the present stage to a new, higher stage of economic reform is to tap social energy." W. Jaruzelski also announced that determined activities will be launched in order, for one, to release individual initiative and to thoroughly transform the system of management, to reform the economic center, and to reform and curb intermediate levels between the economic center and plants. He also announced that the people's councils and self-government bodies would be strengthened. Let me quote again: "The proposal to create a new form of ownership — of communal ownership — is directed toward this end." Another idea expressed by W. Jaruzelski: "We bank on cadres that are ideological, enlightened, innovative, and dynamic regardless of their party affiliation. This process will be encouraged by ensuring that competition for managerial posts is genuine, and by penetrating reviews of managing cadres." W. Jaruzelski also announced that the certification of structures will be greatly accelerated.

That speech was made at the session of the Economic Reform Commission, the one that one of you asked me about and that discussed the specific and detailed draft document for going over to a higher stage of the economic reform. What about the proposals of this document? Some of these proposals provide for intensifying market mechanisms; abolishing state control over raw and other materials as well as production equipment; reducing subsidies; devising a variety of organizational forms of the economy; the development of the multisector economy; the setting up of mixed ownership such as state-private and state-cooperative ownership; the development of trading law companies [spolki prawa handlowego]; freeing the economy from the ballast of obsolete branches, products, and production methods, including the liquidation of enterrpises; switching over from subsidizing industries to subsidize specific consumers if this is socially justified; the development of joint stock companies; selling bonds also to private individuals; allowing for purchases of convertible currencies among enterprises; reforming the taxation system applying to economic units; strengthening the role of the banks; allowing enterprises to choose their own banks; allowing competition among banks; the reform of earnings to enable highly effective workers to earn high wages; the establishment of economic chambers and supervisory councils in order to provide more extensive social control over economic activities; and the development of the forms and powers of workers self-management bodies.

There will be a mechanism that will encourage free initiatives to found new economic enterprises, including state enterprises. Positive new initiatives will be supported by bank loans and the sponsors of these initiatives will be able to take over ailing enterprises. Cottage production and various forms of tenancy will be developed. Various forms of tenancy in trade, small-scale production, some sectors of construction, and cooperative production will be promoted. The draft document proposes that we should abandon the branch trade unions in plants. Except for only some areas, these trade unions should be replaced by voluntary associations based on a vertical organization. They would link units cooperating with one another, that is, units that have common capital and common technological, export, and other problems.

The draft document stipulates that large state economic organisms such as railroads, communications, energy, and steel metallurgy should have managements that are independent of government functions. It provides for a new form of ownership and management -- the companies of the state treasury. The proposals for fundamental changes as contained in that document provide for profound changes in the system of the central management of the economy and for a reform of the mechanisms of this management. There are various concepts in this connection, and their essence is to depart form the administrative ties of various economic units in favor of economic ties such as the share of the state capital in state enterprises. The document provides for reducing the number of ministries and other central offices and for changing their role. Further, the draft document provides for a change in the system by which public services such as education, health, and culture are financed.

It is our intention to hold a press conference this week so that persons representing the Economic Reform Commission and the government could answer questions on all these proposed undertakings. I have simply chosen some of them from a catalogue of the measures under consideration in order to portray for you the depth and radicalism of the changes we want to carry out. At present, work is continuing to make these proposals cohesive and to select the alternatives.

The question about my stand on the statement signed by the secretary of the Episcopate has given me a pretext for discussing the above process. I will use this pretext to state that, regardless of views, anyone can participate in this process if he respects our constitutional principles and is moved by patriotic reasons. I have been authorized to state that we expect a constructive contribution from the Primate's Social Council toward the process of radical reforms. Bodies such as the Consultative Council attached to the State Council chairman, the Economic Reform Commission, the Food Economy Council, the Housing Council, the Consultative Council attached to the premier, and other bodies are not closed shops. In these bodies it is possible to help create various changes, and only those who are absent from these bodies can be wrong a priori. [sentence as published] These bodies are open not only to new members, but also to new ideas.

Boris Dankov, RABOTNICHESKO DELO: Mr Minister, I would like to return to the prices issue. How has Polish society reacted to the latest price rises? Has any data on society's reaction been published, because there are various commentaries.

Urban: There is no data because it is impossible to obtain it in the course of 1 day. I would describe the reaction as follows. Some members of society felt — and somehow expressed to those around them — dissatisfaction that prices are rising, coupled with fear for their material security, but a considerable part of society combined dissatisfaction with the understanding that price rises are necessary, and that the effects of not raising prices would have been worse on people — to say nothing of the economy — than the price rises themselves. Some people's reactions also involve misunderstandings. For example, there is the view that raising the prices of coal and fuel will once again push all prices up and will cause an avalanche-like increase in all prices. That is not so, because here we are only concerned with the retail prices of coal and energy sold to society. The wholesale prices for industry were increased several months ago. The effects of these are already far behind us.

Work proceeded normally yesterday, and is proceeding normally today as well. I have no information about any significant work disruptions. For example, I checked electricity consumption yesterday, and this is a sensitive barometer showing how work is proceeding, even showing what productivity is like, and energy consumption was the same as during normal working days.

Gemma Aizpiutarte, EFE: On 4 March, at the electric power stations in Patnow, Adamow, and Konin, in the Konin Voivodship, the factory radio network broadcast a program containing fragments of a speech by PZPR Voivodship Committee lecturer Roman Sobczak at a party aktiv meeting. He was supposed to have spoken about John Paul II's third pilgrimage, and yet what he said contained insults to the pope's person as well as to the feelings of the Catholics. Eleven employees at these power stations protested in a letter to General Jaruzelski. Is this merely a case of irresponsible behavior by a lecturer, or is it the broader stance of a party cell?

Urban: I think your question is badly formulated and wrongly addressed. I, of course, cannot know the contents of a speech by someone who spoke out somewhere in Poland. General Jaruzelski receives many letters, and I do not know if he got this particular one. Even if he did, I do not think the office of the State Council chairman could have investigated it so quickly. Nor do I, as government spokesman, have any authority to reply on behalf of party cells. What puzzles me most of all out of all this is the content of this question and its conclusion. How am I to understand a question asking about the Polish authorities' attitude toward the pope, just because someone has allegedly insulted him somewhere? I do not think I need to assure anyone of the great respect we accord to Pope John Paul II. I do not understand why our attitude toward the people should be cast in doubt. By the way, as we have adopted a polemical tone, I will continue these polemics for a moment.

At the last press conference, Mr Michael Kaufman of the NEW YORK TIMES asked about the Polish authorities' attitude toward the Yugoslav authorities' statement about the use of the Yugoslav Army during the internal events in Yugoslavia. Because Mr Kaufman's question was quoted in the press, in accordance with our custom, the Yugoslav ambassador told me that the publication of Mr. Kaufman's question in Poland is leading Polish public opinion astray as to the events in Yugoslavia, and as to the contents of the Yugoslav premier's pronouncements.

The ambassador says that Mr Kaufman is exaggerating the events in Yugoslavia and is presenting their background incorrectly. There has been no price freeze in Yugoslavia. Instead, prices have been made more dependent on an increase in productivity. The ambassador also says that a part of the Western press has distorted Premier Branko Mikulic's interview in the West German SPIEGEL. The premier said that if the Yugoslav system's opponents were to receive any support from some foreign force, the Yugoslav authorities would defend their country's system with all means, including the Army. This statement was therefore connected with factory disputes about the size of wages. This is what I wanted to present at the request of the ambassador of a friendly country.

The next issue. On 25 March, [Radio] Free Europe reported what it described as news behind the scenes of the PPR. I quote this news: "During his recent New York visit, PZPR Politburo member Jozef Czyrek secretly met Stefan Olszowski. This visit was surrounded by such secrecy that not even Czyrek's immediate entourage knew about it." This is one of Free Europe's current lies. There was no such meeting. If there had been a private meeting between Jozef Czyrek and a private person such as Stefan Olszowski, it would not have had to be a secret. Free Europe further said that Stefan Olszowski asked the American authorities to extend to his visa for a further 6 months, exactly on the day when he was landing in Warsaw at the end of his private trip to the United States.

The next issue. ANSA, AFP, and the Voice of America have said that Adam Michnik was prevented from going to Italy because the Foreign Ministry had denied him a passport. According to Michnik. ANSA called this a "caprice by the security authorities."

Adam Michnik did ask the Foreign Ministry for a passport. However, the ministry told him that it does not issue passports; it is the Passport Office that does so. Adam Michnik did not apply for a passport at all, so he could not have obtained one. He did not give anyone a chance to give him a passport and take a rest from his presence in Poland, because he did not submit the application form. I reckon that Adam Michnik, who knows so much about everything, probably also knows very well who issues passports in Poland. The Foreign Ministry only issues diplomatic passports, and is not inclined to turn Adam Michnik into a diplomat.

Western agencies report that Michnik was invited to the PSI conference. I am surprised that this party's authorities invited Michnik in view of the fact that he has openly declared himself an enemy of socialism for a long time. Were the socialist forces in Poland meant to be represented by Michnik at the Italian socialists' congress? This seems paradoxical. Neither the PZPR nor any other prosocialist Polish organization was invited to this congress, although some other leading parties in the socialist countries did receive invitations. In this context, I cannot suppress my surprise that Michnik was invited. What a composition of congress guests — the Soviet Union represented by the CPSU and the PPR by Adam Michnik.

Mah'd Yousef, from the Palestinian agency WAFA: What is your comment on the subject of the joint military maneuvers by the United States and Honduras on the border of Nicaragua?

Urban: Poland is consistently in favor of a political solution in Central America. We support activity in this direction by the Contadora Group and the group of supporting states. We believe that military demonstrations do not encourage a peaceful solution to the conflict in this region, whereas negotiations are the right way. We are not alone in this view. Most countries in the world think the same way.

Piotr Walczynski, DPA: Mr Minister, to what extent have the recommendations of the Special Government Commission set up following the Chernobyl breakdown been carried out? What I am particularly concerned with is: Has a system of conduct in the event of a breakdown been worked out, and have any bilateral agreements with countries with nuclear power stations been concluded, especially on the subject of early warning? This includes the Soviet Union, of course.

Urban: I can answer the first question with yes. A system of conduct has been worked out — procedures to be followed in case of danger. However, this entire system is yet to be presented to the government and confirmed by it in the form of a legal instrument calling for its application. In other words, the system does exist, but it has not yet been approved by the government I represent. As far as international agreements are concerned, talks are still going on. There are working contacts on this subject, including with the Soviet Union, GDR, and some Western countries. This is long and complicated work. It is continuing, but we believe it will bear fruit, and this is what we are aiming for.

Roman Rolnik, UPI: I have two questions, Mr Minister. The first is once again about price rises. You said that the average price increase in food is 12 percent. Could you tell us the average price increase of all commodities, including electricity and so on? The second question is about Minister Lopatka's planned trip to Israel. I would like to know why he is going there and how long he intends to stay, and whether Poland is interested in establishing full diplomatic relations with Israel.

Urban: The present price rises average 12 percent. If we take all commodities, those that have gone up and those that have not, draw up an average, and spread it over the year, then we find that spending out of family budgets is increasing by almost 3 percent. This includes goods with high price rises, such as coal, as well as those with moderate rises, for example food, and also those whose prices remain unchanged.

I know nothing about a visit to Israel by Minister Lopatka. I do not rule it out, but I know of no plan. Instead, I have encountered false reports in the Western press, according to which Minister Lopatka has invited the Israeli minister for religious affairs to Poland. That is not true. This information may have been caused by the fact that the person in charge of Israeli interests in Poland intends to invite the minister of religious affairs to Israel privately, and that this news has been distorted.

I have nothing new to say about diplomatic relations with Israel. I reaffirm our stance that such relations will be possible when the reasons for breaking them are removed — in other words, when Israel's policy vis-a-vis the Arab countries changes and there are multilateral talks leading to a withdrawal of Israeli forces from the seized territories. And also when the national rights of the Palestinians are guaranteed.

Gerhard Kowalski, ADN: These days more and more is being said and written about the social screen. It seems to me that this is a new technical term in Poland and that it does not involve a new social policy. Therefore my question: What is the status of this social screen among the entire sphere of social policy?

Urban: By social screen I mean protecting the interests of those people in the poorest material circumstances. And this is a permanent feature of our social policy: protecting the socially weakest groups against the excessively negative effects of various economic moves. And that is why we give the name "screen" to certain undertakings in social policy. We assume that those who are weakest should and can defend themselves by means of conduct that will guarantee them suitable compensation in the form of wage increases, brought about by productive work. Of course, these are general principles, and these principles cover many difficult human situations which we approach with obvious understanding. But there is no other road besides setting the economy on its feet in such a way that everyone's chances may improve. I only wish to stress, because such are your questions, comrades, that these price increases do not signify a general deterioration in Poland's standard of living. These rises are lower than planned, and those that were planned were adapted to the wage increases over the length of the entire year in such a way that the standard of living would not have fallen. I mean the general standard of living, for everyone.

Renata Marsch, DPA: You said that you think the price rises average 10 percent. Could you tell us on what basis you think so, and what will happen to contract prices, and how does one know how much these will rise?

Urban: There are constant misunderstandings. The price increases foreseen this year amount to 14 percent. Food prices that have already been raised are by about 10 percent. Why is this? It was quite simply estimated in advance.

Alma Kadragic [affiliation not given]: We have recently come across criticism of the price increases both by the Episcopate and the OPZZ and by such persons as Mr Walesa. All this criticism has one thing in common -- disbelief that, hot on the heels of the price increases, the economic reform will proceed in a somewhat more concrete way than it has done so far. Do yu not think that the time has come for more concrete ways of building confidence in the Polish Government's economic policy? Is it not time for some dramatic demonstration of what economic reform is meant to be like in Poland?

Urban: I have spoken at length, expressing the view on behalf of the Polish authorities that economic reforms in Poland must be enhanced and accelerated. If they have suffered a lack of oxygen so far, as General Jaruzelski has said, the American mass media should not blame us for this because American restrictions have had a very strong effect on destroying or minimizing Poland's economic ties with the West. The shortage of hard currency and trade embargoes did not permit many undertakings. In any case, the situation is still not easy: You mentioned a dramatic display. I think neither dramatic displays nor ostentatious things are necessary in economic reform. I advise you to take an interest in the preliminary draft that exists. You will see how difficult it is to translate specialized issues concerning banking, finance, and organizational structures into comprehensible language. Drama? Ostentation? Instead, let us say determination, radicalism, and boldness. These are the qualities to which I would attach importance right now.

Donald Forbes, REUTER: Has the ceiling of the planned wage rises been kept at 12 percent, or has it been lowered?

Urban: The ceiling is still 14 percent. The 12 percent applies to something else. In other words, the annual plan calls for 14-percent wage rises. We have never succeeded in keeping to planned wage increases in any year so far. This year, too, the wage increases in January and February were higher than the planned 14 percent.

The 12 percent is something else. This is the size of wage rises in enterprises that are not subject to extra tax. This means that if an enterprise increases wages by more than 12 percent, it pays tax at a level several times greater, except if these wage increases are connected with exports, new technology, certain new organizational structures, and many other factors that contribute to wage rises. But such a wage rise is not highly taxed, so as not to discourage these desired phenomena.

Michael Kaufman: No doubt many government members must have been worried about how society would react to the price increases. How was the possible reaction gauged in advance, and how is it being gauged since the increases? Is information gathered by the trade unions, or by the OPZZ, or by the Security Police, or perhaps by factory managements? How is it done? How is reaction to all this measured?

Urban: First, I wish to assure you the government did not expect a positive reaction. Second, before the price increases there were suitable polls which gave a very clear view about what to expect in the way of reaction. I do not remember the results of these, but I can say that most of all there was a certain amount of failure to understand and tolerate the price increases. Something appeared that may be described as being weary of price increases. I remember certain data showing that what was desired most of all by the respondents was calm and stabilization in Poland. Forty percent of the respondents regarded this as of the greatest importance. However, 10 percent considered stable prices most important.

I would just like to answer the second part of the question. As I have explained, today we do not have the data showing society's reaction to the price increases, but we do know about this reaction. We receive constant information from a great many bodies involved in supplying information. These include the state administration, party cells, the Interior Ministry, newspapers, and especially radio and television, which answer the telephone following price increases and know what the immediate reaction is. Finally, a source of information is also provided by assessments of social moods carried out by various institutions. In any case, these information channels are varied, depending on the scope of the institution providing the information, and are completely independent of each other, so that their data may be compared.

Jackson Diehl, WASHINGTON POST: Judging from what you have said, wages have always risen faster and higher than planned. Does the government intend to introduce methods of greater control over wage rises or at least try to reduce their tempo? Is a wage freeze planned?

Urban: No, a wage freeze is not planned. However, the 12 percent above which wages are highly taxed is the chief economic way of minimizing wage increases. This means that wage increases are always possible and desirable at the same scale as an increase in productivity. Wage increases, even if higher than productivity, are also called for if the work involved is particularly valuable, in other words, if it serves to boost exports or encourages innovation. Remaining wage increases are highly taxed; in other words, the employer must deduct a very high rate of tax from a wage increase, so that it ceases to be profitable for him to raise wages higher than a certain level -- wage rises that are not justified economically, because such wage rises increase inflation and prevent prices increases from being curbed.

Donald Forbes: Could you tell us what percent of Polish families have incomes below the national average, in other words Z24,000 per month?

Urban: No I cannot, and I would ask you to give me earlier warning of such detailed matters. The average national wages you ask about are differernt from family incomes. Family incomes are composed of more elements than just wages, at least that is how it is on average. In such a case it is necessary to operate a computer to answer your question, but it is possible. A simpler question would be: How many people earn less than the national average? Of course, many do. I could also tell you that I do not carry statistical apparatus with me. My office will willingly order suitable calculations from the competent sources. And if you care to take the trouble, please look at the Statistical Diary and work it out yourself.

Renate Marsch: When will the first auction of Western automobiles that have hitherto been at the disposal of administrative cadres take place?

Jerzy Urban: I cannot give you a date yet. The PZPR Central Committee is meeting today and, in the wake of General Jaruzelski's speech, it will examine such questions. It will undoubtedly adopt appropriate steps to realize this aim. Information is also being received from various voivodships about moves aimed at achieving economies and about transferring telephones from institutions to private users. But if you are personally interested in these auctions, I would advise against buying automobiles that were previously in state service because their quality and condition is rather poor.

Michael Kaufman: You mentioned taxation measures aimed at curbing wage growth. You mentioned a special tax on enterprises that exceed the projected 12-percent increase in pay. If this tactic works, then it will have to be conceded that you are right, that it is a good instrument for bringing about economic equilibrium in the country. However, are you not afraid that this mechanism might not work? That is to say, that enterprises will continue to increase wages without showing much concern about taxation, and that the value of work will thus become increasingly arbitrary?

Jerzy Urban: This mechanism does work because the tax amounts to 500 percent and is disastrous for an enterprise. Very few enterprises agree to pay this tax, and they undoubtedly do so at the expense of an enterprise's economic equilibrium. However, a great many enterprises turn to the economic authorities with requests for concessions and give suitable reasons for doing so. Some of the reasons that prompt the granting of such concessions create this subsidy mechanism that we want to limit, for it permits enterprises to breach wage discipline.

I am very pleased; I am rather taken aback by this sudden shift in the Western press toward a detailed interest in economic policy. This is a surprising and extraordinary shift. It is probably connected with a farewell to hopes of interesting events occurring in Poland other than the purely economic concequences of the recent economic moves. I will make a definite effort to organize a news conference given by representatives of government bodies before the end of this week. They will be able to provide more informed replies to such questions. You have made me a specialist on Walesaology [Walesalogia] and crime news, and so it is difficult for me to switch to another field so quickly.

Deborah Seward, NEWSWEEK: My question also concerns economic reform issues. I would like to ask what concrete steps are being taken at the present time to level out the striking disparities between the those who earn least and those who earn most?

Jerzy Urban: I really no longer believe my own big ears when an American journalist talks about striking pay disparities in Poland. This seems just plain funny to me because, as far as legal earnings are concerned, the scale is 1:3 to 1:4, and that is a large difference for Poland. First, we think that wage differentials must increase in Poland, that this clearly flows from the logic of the economic reform, and that it is just that people whose performance is poor should earn significantly less, and people whose performance is outstanding ought to earn significantly more. However, being a socialist state we will certainly never permit the emergence of pay differentials that in any way approximate those that are typical of capitalist countries. The taxation system and a special countervailing tax that adjusts excessive legal income are the principal means by which we prevent this from happening. What constitutes a real problem is illegally earned income, which gives rise to these uncontrolled disparities, the basis of which are dishonest sources of wealth. However, an even greater concern of ours is activity that would serve to reduce poverty by way of countering the causes and not only the consequences of poverty. Inadequate skills and qualifications are one such cause. Poland's Vocational and Mobilization and Retraining Fund is enormous.

Donald Forbes: Minister, because, as you have said, government statistics still talk about workers having become in a certain sense accustomed to a rapid increase in income, and alongside this we now have a situation in which enterprises will no longer be able to increase wages in this way, do you not fear that the situation might lead to serious tension among workers and even to strikes?

Jerzy Urban: Of course pay demands, pay pressure has a lasting character, and the consequence of every increase in prices is an intensification of this pressure. Susceptibility to such pressures gives rise to an excessively high inflation rate and makes it difficult to curb inflation. This has been the case for a number of years and we want to apply new, fresh economic instruments that will make it possible to achieve a breakthrough in this state of affairs and to break out of this vicious circle by way of new production stimuli.

STATISTICS OFFICIAL EVALUATES 1986 ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

PM101305 Kielce SLOWO LUDU in Polish 23 Dec 86 p 2

[Interview with Prof Wieslaw Sadowski, chairman of Main Statistical Office, by KAR correspondent Irena Scholl; date, place not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Sadowski] There is no doubt that, as in previous years, our best economic results in 1986 were in the area of agricultural production. The harvest of the four main crops was almost 5 percent higher than in 1985. In 11 months we purchased 13.8 percent more contracted livestock than in the corresponding period of the preceding year. There was a "leap" of 18.2 percent in poultry production. As we all like pork, we were particularly pleased with the increase in the number of hogs. Procurement purchase of hogs increased rapidly by 2.5 percent.

[Scholl] Hence the growing hope for the abolition of meat rationing in 1987.

[Sadowski] There are some who want it and some who fear it. But if the positive trends continue....

[Scholl] Some people might say that the good results in agriculture are to be credited to favorable weather conditons rather than our own efforts.

[Sadowski] Although there were no disastrous droughts or excessive rainfall, the weather did not always make things easy for us. I believe that the state's overall agricultural policy is yielding its first fruits here: higher fertilizer consumption, the application of more efficient agricultural production processes, and better utilization of the existing agricultural machines — of which, incidentally, Polish farmers have no fewer than those in many other European countries.

[Scholl] Let us now move on to consumer goods.

[Sadowski] Production plans envisaged increases of 2.8 to 3.2 percent, but after 11 months the relevant industries' output was 4.4 percent higher than the corresponding period in 1985, the increase occurring in almost all the sectors involved.

[Scholl] Perhaps that should be attributed to higher prices?

[Sadowski] No. We use comparable prices to calculate the results. But there are other complaints to be made against the consumer goods industry: Consumers find much fault with the structure of production. We do not have the detailed figures, but the pace of consumer goods production is too slow in relation to the existing demand. And, of course, the question of quality.... Although we note a certain increase in the number of goods marked with the high quality symbol, any notable improvement is still a thing of the future.

[Scholl] I think we should also include among industry's major sins its poor record in trying to reduce production costs and its practice of seeking "alibis" for the resulting price hikes. And then wages chase the prices....

[Sadowski] It is really hard to say what was first, the chicken or the egg. The price-wage system is mutually reactive. We estimate that in 1986 the average remuneration was about 20 percent higher than in the preceding year.

[Scholl] But that did not make us any better off.

[Sadowski] Not all of us, and not to any great extent. By the end of the 3d quarter of the year prices had risen by an average 16 percent. If the industrial output had grown at a rate approximating that of the wage increases, and if market supply had been better, then the several percent surplus margin of wage increases over the increased cost of living would have been more noticeable. And we could have said with a clear conscience that the real wages have improved. However, in our case, the improvement exists on paper rather than in reality.

Rapid price and wage increases are a burden on the citizens and on the economy. Accumulation of money for a specific purpose is made difficult because it devalues through inflation. This does not foster the cultivation of rational, efficiency-oriented attitudes.

[Scholl] What was the situation with age and disability payments, and did the correlation between wages and pensions improve?

[Sadowski] The average age and stability pension grew by 25 percent. This high average increase was in the first place the result of the new, higher pensions paid to people who retired only recently, although the two pension increases, in March and September, also played their part. The pensioners involved, particularly those with pensions paid out of the "old portfolio" [lower rates for those whose retired prior to pension reform] felt little improvement in their circumstances, since their income levels are still very low. The correlation between incomes and wages is improving very slow indeed.

On the whole, however, even more favorable correlations and a considerable growth in the population's incomes will fail to satisfy people because their purchasing power is not increasing to any noticeable degree. And we must remember that our situation at the end of 1986 and beginning of 1987 is still worse than it was before the crisis. The per capita national income in 1985 was 15 percent lower than in 1978, and while that difference was smaller in 1986, the decrease is not significant. That is the other reason that lessens our satisfaction with the accelerated agricultural and industrial output.

[Scholl] So how can some tangible changes be brought about?

[Sadowski] The key to the whole question would be to invigorate the economy, as was pointed out at the union congress, the third Central Committee plenum, and the latest Sejm session. At the moment the pressure to subsidize is still strong: During 10 months of 1986 state subsidies went up by 31 percent. Thus, a lot more money goes into subsidizing unprofitable industries than might be surmised from the 16-percent increase in prices.

We must also attach more weight to production for export, because it should "earn" enough to make it possible to import goods necessary to ensure continuity of production and the servicing of our foreign debt. In the case of trade with the first payments area, our exports rose by 8.7 percent, which was slightly more than the 6.6-percent increase in our imports. However, we are still borrowing from socialist countries, mainly the Soviet Union. After 11 months of 1986 the value of imports exceeded that of exports by R621 million.

The unfavorable imports-exports correlation in our trade with the capitalist countries must be listed among other disquieting phenomena. It was assumed in the plan that during 1986 exports would rise by 4.6 percent, but after 11 months they had posted only a 1-percent rise. Imports were planned to fall by 5 percent, but they rose by 3.6 percent instead. We can console ourselves with the fact that in terms of actual value we have $1 million worth of export surplus. But when we remember that our debt amounts to more than $30 billion.

[Scholl] This means that yet another area of our economy must be monitored especially carefully. And now perhaps you would say a few words about the housing construction industry?

[Sadowski] Here also a special effort is called for, since the needs of the population are pressing and the rate at which they are satisfied is most inadequate. The results of the socialized housing construction sector after 11 months of 1986 were 3 percent lower than in the corresponding period of 1985. The annual plan was only 69 percent met. [passage omitted]

DACIAN ARMY BOOK REFUTES HUNGARIAN HISTORIOGRAPHY

AU101750 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1419 GMT 10 Apr 87

["Work on Geto-Dacian Army" — AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 10/4/1987 — The Romanians' ancestors, the Geto-Dacians, had a culture, civilization and military art abreast of the time, states Colonel Gheorghe Tudor, D.hist., reputed Romanian researcher in military history, in the comprehensive monograph "Armata Geto-Daca" (The Geto-Dacian Army) recently put out by the Military Publishing House in Bucharest.

The work contains scientific, literary and epigraphic data on the formation and development of the Geto-Dacian military power, its equipment with fighting means, the character of fortifications, the army's conception and way of fighting, its campaigns in defence of the land.

The ancient sources used show that the Persian Army led by Darius came up against the Geto-Dacian Army's resistance. The Geto-Dacians proved to be "the bravest and most righteous of the Thracians" as Herodotus wrote. From his Danube expedition, Alexander the Great was compelled to retreat, following the Geto-Dacians' heroic and ingenious resistance. As ancient writer Quintus Curtius Rufus reported, the Macedonian king's wish to be praised as conquerer of the bravest people was thwarted. In the B.C.300s the Geto-Dacians had a military strength that could scatter the Macedonian Army led by Zopyrion and, later, by Lysimachus.

Dacian King Burebista, whose bright political and military thought had underlain, more than 2050 years ago, the formation of the first centralized and independent Dacian state as well as of an army including over 200,000 fighters, ensured the Geto-Dacians' growing might, prestige and authority in the ancient world. Horace himself wrote that Rome was about to be destroyed by Dacians and Ethiopians. Burebista's military art that aimed at freeing and defending the territories inhabited by the Geto-Dacians, throwing the whole people into fight, was kept by Dacian King Decebalus as well as by all the leaders of the three medieval Romanian principalities.

Making tremendous efforts and sacrifices, Roman Emperor Trajan reached the Dacian capital Sarmizegethusa and, even after it was conquered, the Dacians did not consider themselves defeated. During the Daco-Roman wars, the Geto-Dacians were not kneeled down so much the less obliterated. [sentence as received] The Geto-Dacians, the work shows, made up the overwhelming majority of the population in Roman Dacia. They preserved the same organization and institutions, the state included, in free Dacia which accounted for about two thirds of Dacia's territory. Moreover, nearly 15 army corps made up of Dacians were identified in the Roman Army, facts that shatter the false and defamatory thesis which became an obsession of the Hungarian historiography regarding the Dacians' extermination by Roman conquerers, a thesis maintained only to contest their continuity in the large Dacian space North of the Danube, especially in the intracarpathian area, deliberately and malevolently ignoring historical sources.

After the Roman army's retreat to more favourable strategic positions on the Danube, at the end of the third century Dacia reunified and the Romanian people, an offspring of the intertwining Dacian and Roman civilizations, continued to uninterruptedly live in the Carpatho-Danubian-Pontic space. The work supplies data showing that, about the year 400, autonomous Dacia existed North of the Danube. Historical and archaeological sources attest to the fact that Transylvania has never been "nobody's land" and that the Daco-Romans and, afterwards, the Romanians continued to live in the ancestral geographic area.

CANAK COMMENTS ON GORBACHEV'S VISIT TO CSSR

AU121740 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0800 GMT 12 Apr 87

[Untitled commentary by Branislav Canak from the "Sunday at 10" program]

[Text] The general secretary of the CPSU is ending his visit to the CSSR today [as heard]. This visit is being assessed in the world as one of the most important foreign affairs events of the week. Here is Branislav Canak's commentary:

[Begin recording] The expected, announced, and then postponed Gorbachev visit to Prague had attracted the attention of observers before it had in fact began. In the last 2 months the CSSR has been visited by three members of the top Soviet leadership: Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs, Marshal Sokolov, and Zaykov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. While the reasons for the visits of the first two could be found in the domain of foreign policy, the reason for Zaykov's visit was probably based on the domestic situation in the CSSR, considering that in the Politburo he is in charge of the economy. However, perplexities and certain disagreements in the Czech party leadership about the aims of reforms and whether they are needed at all have remained. The last plenum that took place in the middle of March did not solve the key questions about the future course. In these circumstances it is understandable that the announced Gorbachev visit was being linked with the need to be more precise about what is meant by the already started or the announced processes of democratization in the socialist community and which societies they refer to. One was probably supposed to explain that specific roads of development do not exclude these processes just as, not so long ago, monolithism did not necessarily guarantee sameness. The trouble lies in the fact that the most striking Czech characteristic, the attempt at reform in 1986, the well-known Prague spring, is methodologically identical in many ways with the Soviet perestroyka [restructuring -- preceding word in Russian]. Bearing in mind that the main characteristic of Czech political practice in the last 18 years has been to distance itself from the ideas of the Prague spring, it is clear what kind of resistance has been created to even the idea of changing something. To bridge this gap ideologically has become the main question, and Soviet experiences, as was stated at the aforementioned plenum by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CSSR Central Committee, have always been of considerable importance. This is therefore the domestic dimension of Gorbachev's visit to Prague.

As far as the international dimension is concerned, most observers did not expect anything significant. However, it was in fact in Prague that Gorbachev offered talks on the withdrawal of strategic missiles, in other words those missiles with a range below 1,000 km. The CSSR and the DDR are the only two Warsaw Pact countries in which Soviet strategic missiles are stationed. This completes the Soviet offer on the withdrawal of Euromissiles. This offer has in fact existed before, but now Gorbachev has offered talks on short-range missiles unconnected with the talks on medium-range missiles. This makes the Soviet package of measures qualitatively greater and puts the United States in a position to discuss tomorrow, when George Shultz arrives in Moscow, the extended agenda. It appears that the price of a ticket for the next summit, about which the United States at present cares more, has gone up. [end recording]

Views Shultz Moscow Visit

AU121907 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 12 Apr 87

[Text] George Shultz, secretary of state, will pay a visit to Moscow tomorrow. This visit, from which much was expected, will take place in an unfavorable atmosphere created by the so-called love-spy affair in the American Embassy in Moscow. Here is Branislav Canak:

[Begin recording] It is not surprising that in the preparations for such an important meeting such as Reagan-Gorbachev, some spy affair takes place again. This seems to be a scenario that one cannot do without. Let us only remember the exchange of spies almost at the same time the meeting in Reykjavik was announced. Now when the preparations for Gorbachev's visit to the United States are being drawn to a conclusion by Shultz visit to Moscow, we have another spy-love affair, and what is more, the problems about eavedropping in the still-unfinished American Embassy in Moscow. The Soviet officials blame certain circles in Washington for that, saying that they are doing it in order to worsen the atmosphere of the Soviet-American talks. The press in some Warsaw Pact member countries, presumably aiming at the same circles, cast doubt on the real American readiness to, as they say, shift their policy from a position of power.

The Soviet statements, from the one Gorbachev made in Prague all the way to those made at all other levles and in all other circumstances and to all press reports, represent the balance of the Soviet positions today and its positions until at least the end of this and maybe next year. This is clear and this is why the other side is informed that they hope that this time the American representative will not come to Moscow empty-handed.

Shultz will arrive in Moscow tomorrow with his 170 assistants and a huge agenda which cannot be avoided where contact between the great is concerned. The agenda will, above all, include Euromissiles, questions relating to strategic arms, defense in space, chemical weapons, nuclear tests, and conventional arms. In addition to this, the agenda will also include obligatory accompanying themes which serve either as a support or as a way to retreat. This refers to Afghanistan, Nicaragua, and human rights. Despite this kind of agenda Shultz will, undoubtedly, put in the first plan the current spy and other affairs. It is not very likely, however, that he will insist on this too much. The Reagan administration needs a foreign policy point so strong that it can lessen domestic affairs and troubles.

The improvement in relations between the superpowers would mean a great deal to both sides but at present more to Washington. This is how one should understand the latest expressions of welcome Reagan again sent to Gorbachev 2 days ago. One should mention here that this is the next-to-last year of Reagan's second and last term of office. Better communications with the other superpower would mean a lot to the Republicans at the presidential elections for which the campaign will soon start. [end recording]

SUNDIC ASSESSES USSR-U.S. RELATIONS, DISARMAMENT

LD112030 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Here is our foreign politics commentary. It deals with Soviet-U.S. relations and the problem of disarament on the eve of George Shultz visit to Moscow. Milika Sundic comments:

[Sundic] In his speech yesterday in Prague, Mikhail Gorbachev practically announced the content of the forthcoming dialogue in Moscow between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and his Soviet colleague Edward Shevardnandze. Let us recall that Shultz arrives in Moscow on Monday, where he will stay until Thursday. In his speech yesterday Mikhail Gorbachev proposed, in additin to his previous proposal on reducing medium-range missiles in Europe, a dialogue on reducing short-range missiles, on the withdrawal of which both the United States and its European allies have been insisting. According to Gorbachev, negotiations on short-range missiles should not call in question the agreement on medium-range missiles, as this would only complicate the negotiations the disarmament problem as a whole, and consequently East-West relations.

The Soviet leader also reaffirmed readiness to withdraw operational-tactical missiles from Czechoslovakia and the GDR immediately upon the signing of the agreement on reducing medium-range missiles from Europe.

President Reagan also made his views known on the theme of Soviet-U.S. relations, speaking from Los Angeles, where he is staying on a short break. The U.S. President said that Gorbachev would be welcome in the United States, thus renewing his previous invitation to the Soviet leader to meet on U.S. territory, after which Reagan would visit the Soviet Union. As far as Soviet-U.S. relations are concerned, President Reagan says that he has neither a good reason for enthusiasm nor any motives for alarm. The head of the White House said nothing about the eavesdropping affair of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, though he gave Shultz instructions to raise this matter in its most serious form. This is not unimportant, especially considering the fact that there are plans in Washington to demolish the newly built embassy, because it is allegedly bugged from the foundation to the roof. However, one hopes that this will not happen, because the Americans have no proof either that they are free from guilt in this respect.

The eavesdropping affair could have a certain effect on the course of the Shultz-Shevardnadze dialogue, but most likely not on its final outcome, particularly because the direction in which Soviet-U.S. relations will develop in the coming weeks and months, and consequently the fate of the agreement on withdrawing missiles from Europe, will in many respects depend on the outcome of the Shultz visit to Moscow.

In any case, Gorbachev's speech yesterday in Prague, and also President Reagan's speech on Soviet-U.S. relations, provide sufficient basis for the Kremlin dialogue to proceed with the signs of rapprochement of the two country's views on nuclear missile armaments. Judging by everything, Shultz will also meet Mikhail Gorbachev and neither can one exclude the possibility of Shultz extending a message from President Reagan to the Soviet leader.

A successful outcome for the upcoming Soviet-U.S. dialogue in Moscow is guaranteed to a great extent by the recent successful visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the Soviet Union. In any case, for some time now a conviction has been dominant in the world that the Soviet Union is ready for a serious dialogue on all the important problems, and it would be a real shame if the West rejected an outstretched hand.

ALBANIAN 'IRREDENTISTS' ATTACK DIPLOMAT IN GENEVA

LD111520 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1321 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Geneva, 11 Apr (TANJUG) — A group of Albanian irredentists in Geneva today physically assaulted Yugoslav diplomat Dragoljub Dimitrijevic. Dimitrijevic was taking part in the UN conference on peaceful exploitation on nuclear energy, which ended in Geneva last night. Dragoljub Dimitrijevic, who was slightly wounded, resisted the irredentists, and the Swiss police intervened soon afterward.

The Albanian irredentists attacked the Yugoslav diplomat near the railroad station, where they had organized an anti-Yugoslav meeting. About 300 irredentists had been shouting anti-Yugoslav slogans. Apart from waving Albanian flags and placards containing slanders, they shouted slogans such as "Kosovo Republic," "We will fight for Kosovo," and similar slogans. The demonstrations were organized by the so-called "National Movement for the Republic of Kosovo," with the knowledge and presence of the Geneva police.

Infuriated irredentists then left the Geneva railroad station for the seat of the United Nations in Geneva, where they continued with their program of shouting slogans. From there they dispersed. Apart from the physical assault on diplomat Dragoljub Dimitrijevic, the Geneva police failed to intervene during these anti-Yugoslav demonstrations.

MIKULIC DEFENDS INTERVENTION MEASURES IN RIJEKA

AU111906 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 11 Apr 87

[Text] Branko Mikulic, FEC president, accompanied by his assistants on a working visit to Rijeka, made a notable speech at a session of the Rijeka maritime committee last night. He talked most about the intervention measures and their wrong interpretation by the public, which makes it difficult to perceive the prospects of Yugoslavia's development. Here is a report by Milivoje Valentic:

The wrong impression is being created about the intervention measures, as if we had landed in insurmountable difficulties and the situation were hopeless. The public is being disheartened, or rather disinformed, Branko Mikulic said in Rijeka. He pointed out that problems indeed exist, but we have the strength to overcome them. A precondition for success is to face the truth boldly in the face and to ask proper questions.

[Begin Mikulic recording] We now face the question, which otherwise is not much discussed in our country: Must we in Yugoslavia reduce personal incomes and the standard of living? I declare responsibly that we must not. But we must work much better. This means that we should utilize the existing capacities better, do business more efficiently, increase the productivity of labor, and solve all that is connected with it and it is a condition for it.

We use our plants at 68 percent of capacity. The [word indistinct] coefficient in Yugoslavia is 1.48. Our productivity of labor is one half or one third of that in the developed European countries. The efficiency of investment in Yugoslavia is below the efficiency of investment in countries at our level, such as Turkey or Greece.

Why do we not broach these questions in our public discussions more boldly? Why do we not turn to our own opportunities, but divided on the questions as to who is in favor of reducing personal incomes and who in favor of retaining them at the present level.

I can tell you that the FEC is in favor of an increase of personal incomes. However, we must ensure the increase through real funds. [end recording]

Branko Mikulic believes that the intervention measures and moves by the federal government are often wrongly interpreted and falsely construed. Unfortunately such cases are not isolated.

[Begin Mikulic recording] There are many qualifications of this sort in our country, anyhow, and there are various kinds of disinformation. I do not know why. I will mention some, for instance: Prices will be frozen; let us use the opportunity and increase prices. Personal incomes will be frozen; so there is an explosion of personal incomes in December.

Recently even somebody [Mikulic fumbles for words, corrects himself] I would say that it is even a matter of diversions. Rumor is spread that we will nationalize citizens' foreign exchange deposits. Nobody of the responsible people in this country has ever even thought of doing anything of the kind. However, disinformation is launched, it quickly spreads through various parts of the country, and bank counters are besieged by foreign exchange depositors wanting to withdraw their money.

I must say that I do not know in which circles such disinformation is generated, but disinformation simply follows disinformation, so that people may be discouraged, (?confused), and that an efffect would be created that is against this country in general. [end recording]

Finally one should ask where our Yugoslav prospects lie — not just economic, but also social, political, and civilization prospects. Speaking in Rijeka, Branko Mikulic presented his thought as follows:

[Begin recording] I do not believe that we will resolve this if everybody keeps to (?himself). When I say that we must search for solutions jointly and that we must join both our forces and resources, it does not at all mean that we will jeopardize the sovereignty of the republics and the autonomy of the provinces, or that we will take away somebody's income and give it to somebody else. We must find solutions that will increase and further develop the material basis of each of us individually.

The whole world is pulling together. You can see what the EC is doing. There you are, they are going to have a joint currency, their own assembly. Instead of a common market they will have a unified market tomorrow. We in Yugoslavia, however, are unfortunately still confronted with many tendencies to shut ourselves in our own backyards. We will have to pay the price all together and every one separately, no doubt. I do not doubt in the least that we would get out of our difficulties more quickly with united forces. [end recording]

TANJUG ASSESSES WORK STOPPAGES IN REPUBLICS

LD121014 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0058 GMT 12 Apr 87

[By Ljubinka Milosevic]

[Text] Belgrade, 12 Apr (TANJUG) — The application of the intervention laws was the cause of 121 work stoppages, or one third of the total 387 work stoppages in Yugoslavia in the first 3 months of this year. Reaction to these laws involved 21,232 of the total 50,910 participants in this kind of protest.

In the present economic situation in the country it is indicative that less than 1 percent of the work force decided on this kind of protection of their own interests. It would be "idealistic" to say that the reason for such a "peaceful approach" lies in the widespread awareness of the need for the introduction at last of economic laws into our way of life. In the explanation of this phenomenon, however, we cannot ignore the frequently cited unofficial fact that a section of our working class has still not removed itself from agriculture. It is said that not even a half of the total expenditure in the country is created by personal incomes, which means that a section of the work force maintains the level of its living standard either from earnings from small or large plots of land or from income from the so-called "grey economy" (work in free time).

When talking about the intervention laws, which the legislators altered unusually quickly, showing regard for the protests at some of the illogicalities, which resulted from their application, it should be recalled that they gave rise to work stoppages in precisely those collectives where earnings were relatively high. They did not, however, according to statistics of the Confederation of Trade Unions of Yugoslavia, induce strikes of the work force in Macedonia and Kosovo. There is no precise answer as to why that is so. The explanation perhaps lies in the fact that these regulations did not significantly alter the position of the workers in these two areas of the country -- they did not reduce their already low personal incomes.

According to what was brought out at the beginning of last week at the session of the Presidium of the Confederation of Trade Unions of Yugoslavia Council, in Macedonia, Kosovo, and Montenegro as well, a number of workers have not received personal incomes for either January or February, and what some get in their hands is below the legal minimum envisaged in the regulations on guaranteed personal income. In Macedonia there have been 33 work stoppages since the beginning of the year, with 7,000 participants; in Kosovo 9 with 578 taking part; and in Montenegro 20 stoppages involving 4,000 workers, and of these 11 (with 960 participants) were because of the intervention laws.

The trade unions also have details for the other republics and provinces. In Bosnia and Hercegovina there were 50 stoppages (7,720 participants) of which 20 were because of the intervention laws (5,100). In Croatia there was a total of 98 (14,000), 40 because of the laws (7,577). In Slovenia there were 51 stoppages (4,600), 12 because of the laws (1,800). In Serbia proper there were 111 stoppages (11,485) while the law was the cause of 33 stoppages (5,145). In Vojvodina there were 15 stoppages with 1,482 participants of which 5 were because of the law with 650 taking part.

All these facts indicate that the tendency of growth in the number of work stoppages which has been present since 1982 is continuing. In that year there were 174 stoppages in the whole country, while in 1986 there were 831. This is also an area where some of the essential differences between our republics and provinces are lost. Almost everywhere the number of participants in strikes is increasing to some extent. This number is not, however, taking on the proportions that are sometimes ascribed to it. Trade union figures indicate that the average number taking part in work stoppages in 1982 was 63, last year it was 104, and in the first 3 months of this year 131 workers.

What provides reason for concern and broader sociological study of the phenomenon of work stoppages, in a sense, is the fact that protests of this kind are increasingly transfering from the level of the basic organization of associated labor into the broader form of self-management organization -- the work organization. In this sense one can speak of a certain "expansion of the wave" of discontent, which has doubtless been influenced by the intervention laws aimed against the distribution of what does not exist.

MINERS CONTINUE STRIKE OVER INTERVENTION LAW

LD101044 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0936 GMT 10 Apr 87

[Text] Labin, 10 Apr (TANJUG) -- Miners of the RASA Istrian mines working in the Tupljak pit, who stopped work the day before yesterday, were joined yesterday by some 70 miners from the second shift, and this morning by the complete first shift of the Labin pit. Today practically all the miners of the Rasa Istrian mines are on strike, though all the key systems of the mine are working normally and there have been no excessive situations.

Miners are demanding an increase in the value of the point rating from the beginning of the year by 100 percent and by another 50 percent from 1 March, and do not accept the explanation that personal incomes should be adjusted in accordance with the intervention law. Nor did they accept the proposal that a possible increase of the point rating should be discussed after the settling of periodical accounts toward the end of the month.

Last year the average personal income in this collective with around 1,700 employees amounted to 125,000 dinars, while in the Tupljak pit, where the work stoppage started, in the first 3 months of this year it was around 170,000 dinars.